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MONTANA

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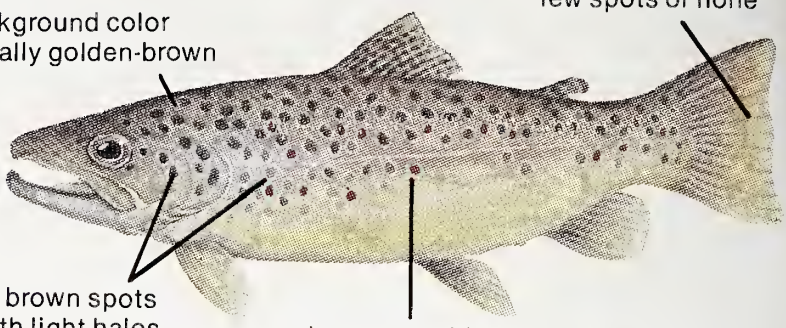
fishing regulations

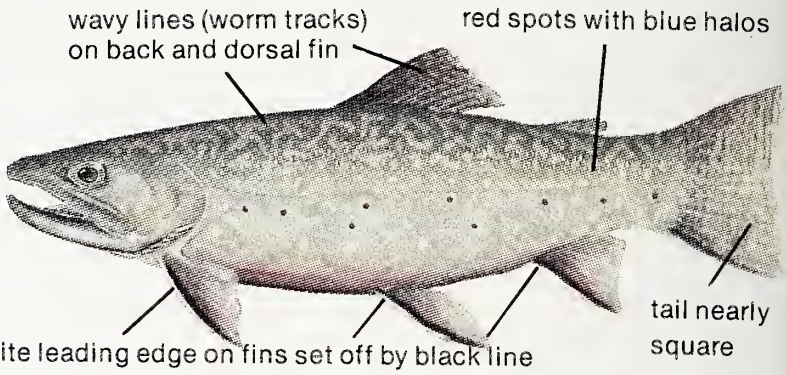
MAGAZINE

Cold Water Fish

Brown Trout

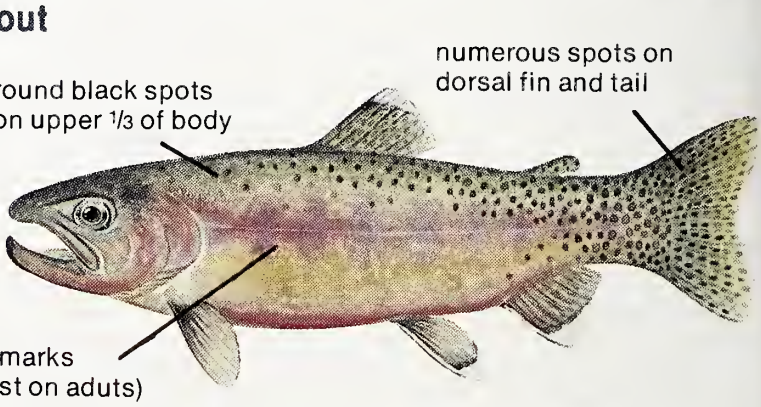

tail squarish with few spots or none
background color usually golden-brown
black or brown spots often with light halos
red spots on sides with light halos

Brook Trout

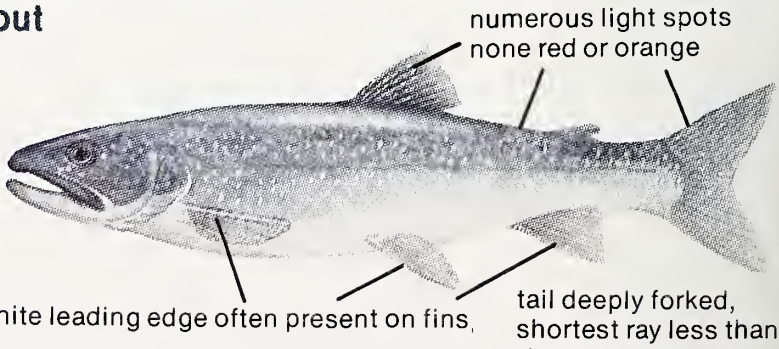

wavy lines (worm tracks) on back and dorsal fin
red spots with blue halos
tail nearly square
white leading edge on fins set off by black line

Rainbow Trout

Golden Trout



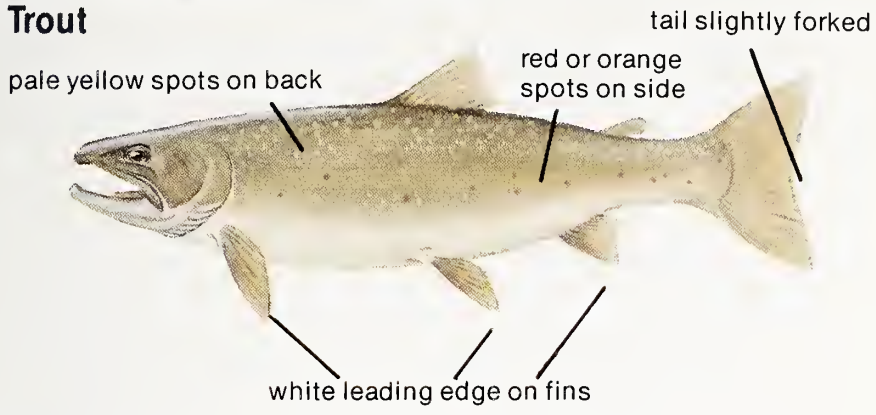
Lake Trout


numerous light spots none red or orange
white leading edge often present on fins
tail deeply forked, shortest ray less than 1/2 length of longest

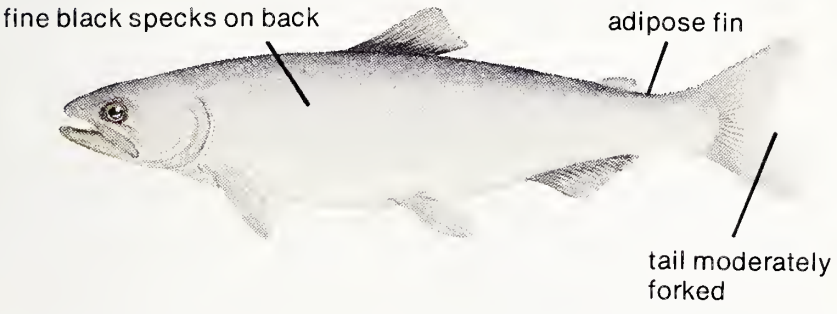
The fish illustrations displayed in these regulations were painted by Glenn West for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Cold Water Fish

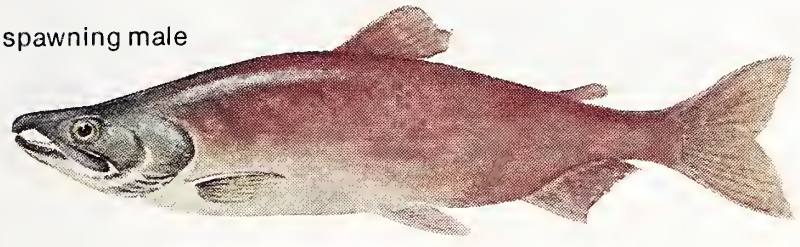
Bull Trout



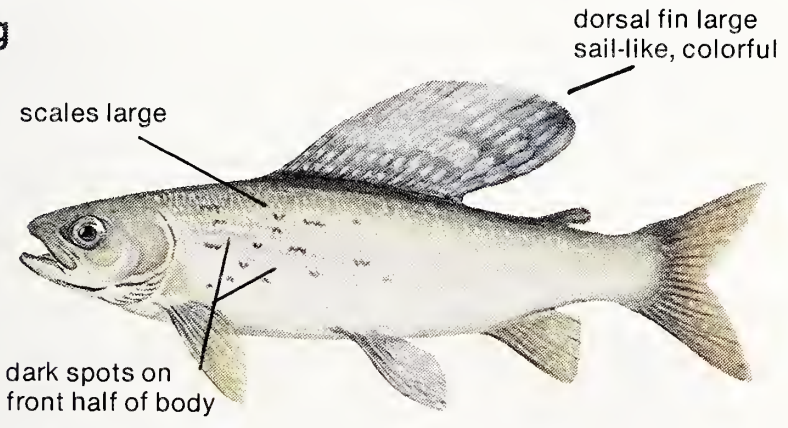
Kokanee



Kokanee



Grayling



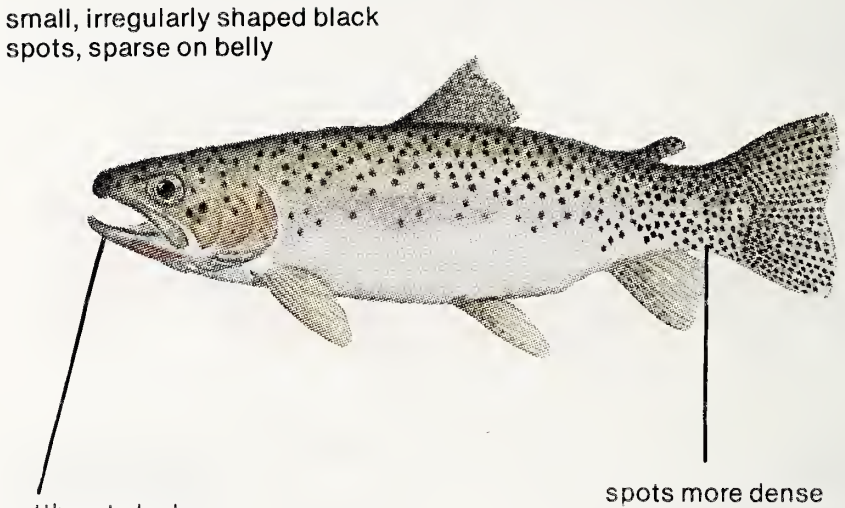
Mountain Whitefish

CUTTHROAT TROUT

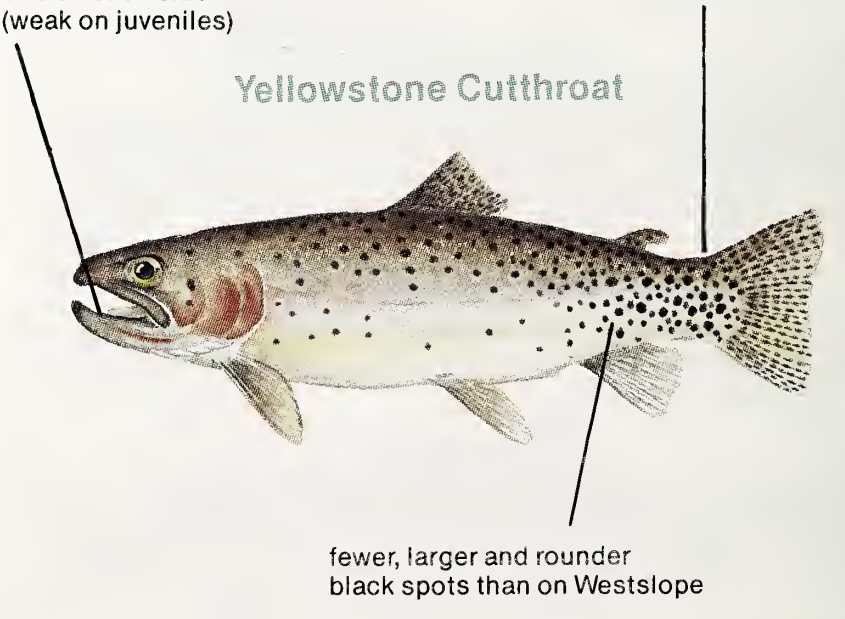
Cutthroat trout are the only members of the genus **Oncorhynchus** native to most of Montana. The number and range of both subspecies have been severely reduced over the years due to habitat destruction, competition, interbreeding with other species, and over fishing.

Cutthroat trout can grow to a fairly large size (1-3 lbs.) and provide excellent fishing in good habitat **if** they are not over harvested. Because they take a hook so readily, cutthroat can be over fished more easily than any other western trout. If you fish anywhere cutthroat are found, but particularly in streams, we ask that you check the throat area of fish you catch for red slashes. Letting those fish go should contribute to improve fishing. Enjoy the recreation these native Montanans can provide.

Westslope Cutthroat


small, irregularly shaped black spots, sparse on belly
cutthroat slash—one on each side (weak on juveniles)
spots more dense toward rear of fish

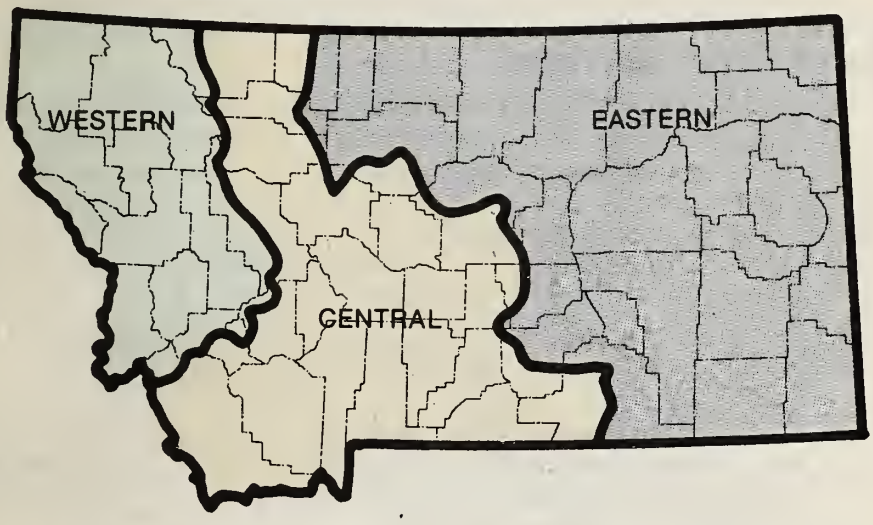
Yellowstone Cutthroat



Guide to Using These Regulations

1. The standard statewide fishing regulations found on pages 2-7 summarizes general information and regulations that apply statewide.
2. Montana fishing waters are divided into three distinct districts—Western, Central and Eastern. The map below is a general guideline to help determine which district your selected fishing water is found in. Regulations for those districts are found on the following pages:

   Western 8-17 Central 18-30 Eastern 31-36
3. Look under the district exceptions for your particular body of water. If it is **not** listed under the exceptions, then the standard fishing seasons and daily and possession limits apply.



License Requirements

A fishing license is a permit for the lawful holder thereof to fish for and possess any fish within the state as authorized by fishing regulations. This includes commercial whitefishing in which case the license must be validated by an authorized Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks employee. There is no charge for this validation.

A Conservation License is required of both residents and nonresidents before a fishing license may be purchased.

Licenses are nontransferable and nonrefundable. The license year runs March 1 through February of the following year.

Resident

In order to apply for a Montana resident fishing (or hunting) license, one must be a legal resident of Montana for a period of six months immediately prior to making application.

Each resident 15 years and older must have a resident fishing license in order to fish. Residents 12 through 14 years of age and residents 62 and older must have a conservation license to fish. Residents under the age of 12 need no license to fish but must observe limits and all other fishing regulations.

Free fishing permits are available from heads of respective institutions for patients at veteran's administration hospitals and for residents of state institutions other than the state penitentiary.

Residents who are certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as designated by rules of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, may purchase a "Disabled Persons Conservation License."

License Requirements, Continued . . .

- **Resident Conservation License . . . . . .$ 4.00**
  — Residents 12 through 14 years of age and residents 62 or older need only a conservation license to fish, and to hunt upland game birds, other than turkeys.
- **Resident Disabled Persons Conservation License. . . .$ 4.00**
  — Residents who are certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as designated by rules of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, may apply for an annual "Disabled Persons Conservation License" which authorizes fishing, and hunting of upland game birds.
- **Resident Fishing License $11.00**
- **Resident Sportsman's License $54.00**
  — Includes a conservation, deer "A", and elk license and authorizes fishing, and hunting of upland game birds, other than turkeys.
- **Resident Paddlefish Tags. . . . . .Two for $ 4.00**
  — Limit of two.
  — Required of all paddlefish anglers, regardless of age.

Nonresident Licensing

All nonresidents 15 years and older must have a fishing license to fish. No nonresident under the age of 15 years may fish in Montana without having obtained a fishing license unless the nonresident under the age of 15 years is in the company of an adult in possession of a valid Montana fishing license. The limit of fish for the nonresident and the accompanying adult combined may not exceed the limit for one adult.

A nonresident of any age may purchase a nonresident fishing license and be entitled to take a legal limit of fish.

- **Nonresident Conservation License . . . . . .$ 5.00**
- **Nonresident Season Fishing License . . . . . .$ 40.00**
- **Nonresident Temporary Fishing License. . . . . .$ 10.00**
  — Valid for 2 consecutive days.
- **Nonresident Paddlefish Tag. . . . . .Two for $ 15.00**
  — Limit of two.
  — Required for all nonresident paddlefish anglers, regardless of age, even when accompanied by an adult in possession of a valid Montana fishing license.
- **Nonresident Deer Combination License $238.00**
  — Available from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Helena Headquarters only. Includes a conservation and deer "A" license and authorizes fishing, and hunting of upland game birds, other than turkeys. Quota of 6,000.
- **Nonresident Big Game, Fish and Bird License $462.00**
  — Available from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Helena Headquarters only. Includes a conservation, deer "A" and elk license and authorizes fishing, and hunting of upland game birds, other than turkeys. Quota of 17,000.

Resident & Nonresident —State Park Entrance Fee

Montana state park use, including fishing from waters at a state park, requires an entrance fee. A state park passport vehicle sticker is available for $15 from any Fish, Wildlife and Parks office and most license agents. For the nonfrequent user, a $3 per vehicle daily entrance charge may be paid at the site you are visiting.

Standard Statewide Fishing Regulations

Artificial Lures

Artificial lures shall include any lure (including flies) that is man made in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait. Artificial lures do not include fish eggs or other chemically treated or processed natural baits or any natural or man made food, or any man made lures that have been treated with a natural or artificial fish attractant or feeding stimulant.

Bait

Live Fish

- Sculpins (genus Cottus) may be used live for bait statewide, except in waters limited to artificial lures and in the Madison River between Varney Bridge and Ennis Lake.
- Live carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch and rainbow smelt may not be used for bait at any location in the state.
- Live fish other than sculpins may not be used for bait except as provided under Bait (Live) as listed in the Central (page 20) and Eastern (pages 32-33) District regulations.
- Persons fishing in water closed to the use of live fish for bait may not have live bait fish in their immediate possession. Nongame species may be taken for bait only in waters where live fish are allowed as bait (see Means of Taking, pages 6-7).

Dead Fish

Any fish, or parts thereof, may be used dead as bait if they have their heads and entrails removed, or if they have been preserved or frozen, except in waters limited to artificial lures only.

Commercial Bait Fish Seining and Sale of Bait Fish

- Nongame bait fish (except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch and rainbow smelt) may be harvested for commercial purposes in accordance with ARM Section 12.7.201-12.7.206. Any individual taking nongame fish for sale or commercial distribution must possess a commercial bait fish seining license. Contact your regional Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office for a permit and list of waters open to commercial seining.
- Live bait fish may not be imported into or exported from the State of Montana for commercial or other purposes.
- Commercial bait regulations are not valid on Indian Reservation Waters—for information contact local tribal officials.

Commercial Aquatic Invertebrate Collections

Persons wishing to collect aquatic invertebrates such as leeches, crayfish, and aquatic insects for sale or commercial distribution should contact their regional Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office for information.

Beaver Ponds

Impoundments formed by beaver dams on streams are governed by the same regulations that govern the streams.

Boat and Motor Restrictions

- The use of boats is prohibited or restricted on many waters. A copy of the **Boating Laws and Rules** is available from any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.
- Notice: When using any form of a raft, boat, or sailboat on Montana's waters, a personal flotation device (PFD) must be made available for all persons on board. The PFD must be the appropriate size; be in good working order and readily available to each person; and be U.S. Coast Guard Approved.
- All youth under the age of 12 years must wear (securely fastened to their body) a PFD at all times when in an operated boat.
- The following is a partial list of rules pertaining to boating and water safety; other waters may be closed as posted.

Your purchase
of fishing equipment
and motor boat fuels supports
Sport Fish Restoration and
boating access facilities

- **12.6.801 BOATING CLOSURES** (1) The following waters/areas will be either closed as posted or marked by barrel booms to the use of all boats or other water craft except in case of rescue craft or plant maintenance work:
  (a) area immediately above and below Holter Dam in Lewis and Clark County;
  (b) area immediately above and below Hauser Dam in Lewis and Clark County;
  (c) area immediately above and below Canyon Ferry Dam in Lewis and Clark County;
  (d) area immediately above and below Milltown Dam in Missoula County;
  (e) area immediately above Flint Creek Dam in Deer Lodge County;
  (f) area immediately above Kerr Dam in Lake County;
  (g) a portion of Brown's Lake near Ovando, Powell County, during the time period beginning April 1 and ending July 15.

- **All rivers and streams in the following counties east of the Continental Divide are closed to the use of all boats propelled by machinery of over 10 horsepower, except for official use:**

County	Exception
Beaverhead	
Broadwater	Missouri downriver from the Broadwater-Gallatin County line.
Gallatin	Missouri downriver from Headwaters State Park.
Jefferson	
Madison	
Park	Yellowstone downriver from Highway 89 Bridge, near mouth of Shields River.
Silver Bow	

- **The following reservoirs and lakes of the state are closed to the use of all boats propelled by machinery over 10 horsepower, except for official use:**

Beaver Creek Reservoir	Hill County
Carpenter Lake	Lincoln County
South Sandstone Reservoir	Fallon County

- **The following waters are limited to manually-operated boats and boats powered by electric motors, except for official use:**

Castle Rock Reservoir	Rosebud County
Crystal Lake	Fergus County
Gartside Reservoir	Richland County
Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir	Lewis & Clark County

- **The following waters of the state are closed to all motor-propelled water craft, except for official use:**

Western Fishing District

Bearmouth rest area pond	Granite County
Frenchtown Pond	Missoula County
Harpers Lake	Missoula County
Twin Lakes	Ravalli County

Central Fishing District

Arapooish access area	Big Horn County
Big Hole River	Silver Bow, Madison, Deer Lodge, Beaverhead counties
Bighorn River	That portion of the Bighorn River from Afterbay Dam to the Big Horn access area, Big Horn County
Bozeman Ponds	Gallatin County
Forest Lake	Meagher County
Park Lake	Lewis & Clark County

Central Fishing District, Continued . . .

Missouri River	That portion of the Missouri River from the Burlington Northern Railway Bridge No. 119.4 at Broadwater Bay in Great Falls to Black Eagle and that portion of the Missouri River from the Warden Bridge on 10th Avenue South in Great Falls to the floater take-out facility constructed near Oddfellows Park at Broadwater Bay as posted, Cascade County
Smith River	Cascade County
Spring Meadow Lake	Lewis & Clark County
Eastern Fishing District	
Bearpaw Lake	Hill County
Lake Elmo	Yellowstone County

Checking Stations

Anglers and hunters are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from fishing and hunting areas, even if there are no fish or game to be checked.

Children's Fishing Waters

Waters posted as Children's Fishing Waters are closed to fishing during the entire year to persons twelve (12) years and older.

Closed Waters

All waters operated by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as fish hatcheries and rearing ponds shall be closed to fishing at all times. Water in which the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is operating fish traps and other special structures shall be closed to fishing as posted. Certain water supply lakes, streams, and hazardous areas are closed as posted.

Fishing Hours

Fishing is allowed at all hours during open fishing seasons.

Game Fish

All species of the family Salmonidae (chars, trout, salmon, grayling and whitefish); all species of the genus Stizostedion (sauger and walleye); all species of the genus Esox (northern pike and tiger muskellunge); all species of the genus Micropterus (bass); all species of the genus Polyodon (paddlefish); all species of the family Acipenseridae (sturgeon); the genus Lota (burbot or ling); and the species Ictalurus punctatus (channel catfish).

Ice Fishing

Shelters

- Special regulations on ice fishing shelters apply in:
  - — Bearpaw Lake
  - — Beaver Creek Reservoir
  - — Browns Lake (near Ovando)
  - — Deadmans Basin Reservoir
  - — Echo Lake (near Anaconda)
  - — Georgetown Lake
  - — Hauser Lake
  - — Helena Valley Reservoir
  - — Lake Frances
  - — Lake Helena
- See Ice Fishing Shelter Regulations available from any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Size of Hole

- The maximum size hole that may be cut for ice fishing is 144 square inches. This does not apply to waters open to fishing through the ice with spear or gig.

Indian Reservations

- Certain waters on Indian Reservations may have special rules. Tribal permits may be required. Specific information should be obtained from reservation headquarters.
- The State of Montana and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have entered into a cooperative agreement on the Flathead Reservation. Please check for fishing regulations specific to the Flathead Reservation. For information call the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks at 752-5501 or the Tribes at 675-2700.

Irrigation Canals and Ditches

Man made irrigation canals and ditches are open year around unless shown otherwise under district regulations. Standard District stream limits apply to irrigation canals and ditches.

Limits

- **Daily** limit shall mean the numbers of fish that may be legally taken during a calendar day. It is unlawful to take or possess more than the daily limit of fish unless otherwise specified under district regulations.
- **Possession** limit shall mean the number of fish which may be in one person's possession anytime in any form: fresh, stored in freezers or lockers, salted, smoked, dried, canned or otherwise preserved.
  - — Refer to district regulations for respective daily and possession limits.
  - — A person fishing on a water may possess only a limit allowed for that water.
  - — To determine limits, fish may have entrails removed but must have their heads and tails attached to their bodies.

Means of Taking

Number of Lines and Hooks

- Only a single line with up to two hooks, with or without a pole may be used for fishing unless otherwise specified in district regulations. The pole or line must be hand held or in immediate control.
- Where multiple lines are allowed, the total number of allowable lines includes hand held lines, setlines, spears, or other units of fishing gear.
- Hook—A hook is a single, double, or treble point attached to a single shank, except a lure with multiple hooks is considered a single hook.
- These provisions also apply to commercial whitefish fishing as provided under district regulations.

Setlines

- Setlines may be used on some waters as specified by district regulations. Unless otherwise specified a setline must be checked by the owner at least once every 24 hours.
- The owners name and address must be attached to each unattended setline.
- Setlines shall not be attached to jugs or other free-floating devices except where their use is specified in district regulations.

Snagging

- Snagging of fish is unlawful at all times except paddlefish, kokanee salmon and nongame fish as provided under district regulations. Where snagging is allowed, any number of hooks may be used. Snagging is a technique of angling in which a hook or hooks are cast, trolled or lowered into the water and manipulated to imbed the hook or hooks into the body of the fish.

Continued . . .

Means of Taking, Continued . . .

Nets and Traps

- Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish.
- A screen or a net not to exceed four (4) feet in length or width may be used to take sculpins (Cottus) for bait statewide.
- In Central and Eastern District waters where use of live fish is allowed for bait, nongame species (except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch and rainbow smelt) may be taken in the following manner:

  with seines not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width, **or**

  with minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.
- Crayfish for personal consumption may be taken in traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.

National Parks

Certain waters on National Parks may have special rules. Specific information may be obtained from the headquarters of the park.

Seasons

All dates given are inclusive dates. Where dates specify an open season, fishing is closed throughout the remainder of the year. An open season is for all species unless otherwise specified.

Wildlife Refuges

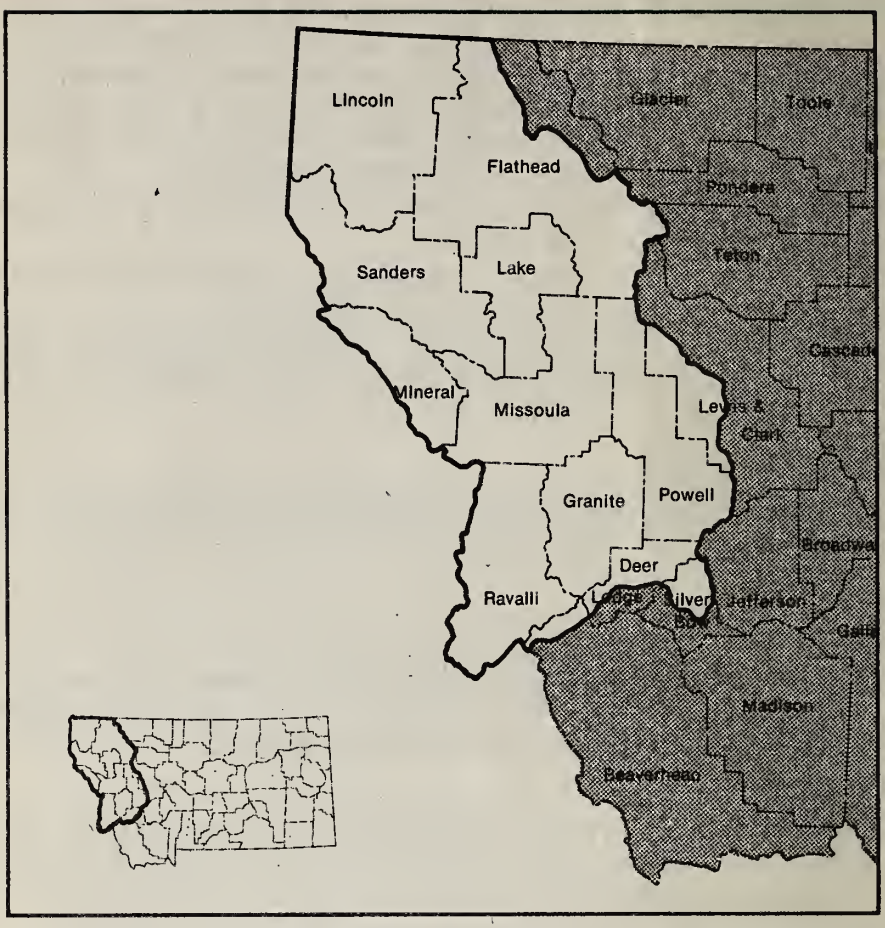
Certain waters on Wildlife Refuges may have special rules. Specific information may be obtained from the headquarters of the refuge involved.

It is Unlawful

- It is unlawful and a misdemeanor to violate any of the regulations listed in this booklet.
- To transport or introduce any fish or viable fish eggs into any waters;
- To refuse to show one's license upon demand;
- To refuse to show one's fish upon demand;
- To loan or transfer your fishing or hunting license or tags to any person;
- To sell game fish except as prescribed by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission regulations;
- To leave or dump any dead animal, fish, garbage or litter in or on any state or private property where public recreation is permitted;
- To use any carbide, lime, giant powder, dynamite, or other explosive compounds, or any corrosive or narcotic poison or to have any of the same in one's possession within one hundred (100) feet of any streams where fish are found, for the purpose of stunning or killing fish;
- To hire or retain an unlicensed outfitter or guide;
- To waste any part of game fish suitable for food.
- To operate upon Montana waters a boat which:
  - — Is not properly licensed and numbered with registration card carried in boat, if motorized (gas or electric);
  - — Is not carrying equipment required by the Montana Water Safety Law (copies available from any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office);
  - — Does not have one serviceable, Coast Guard approved personal flotation device for each passenger plus one type IV PFD in boats over 16 feet. Persons under 12 years old must wear PFD's when boat is in motion and is less than 26 feet long.

TURN IN POACHERS
CALL: 1-800-TIP-MONT

WESTERN FISHING DISTRICT



Western Fishing District includes all waters in Montana West of the Continental Divide.

For additional information regarding fishing the water bodies in this district, please call the following regional headquarters:

Kalispell 752-5501
Missoula 542-5500
TDD (Telephone device for the deaf) 444-1200.

Standard Fishing Seasons

Lakes—Open entire year. Valid fishing license required.

Rivers and Streams—Open third Saturday in May through November 30. Some streams have extended whitefish and catch-and-release fishing for trout from December through third Saturday in May. See exceptions. Valid fishing license required.

Ice Fishing—All lakes in the Western District are open to use of 2 attended lines with 2 hooks per line when fishing through the ice. Valid fishing license required.

Bow and Arrow—All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow taking of nongame fish. Crossbows are illegal. Valid fishing license required.

Snagging—All waters open to angling are open to snagging of nongame fish. Snagging of salmon is allowed in waters open to fishing from September 15 through December except as noted under exceptions. Valid fishing license required.

Spearing—Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish by spearing in most waters open to fishing (note district exceptions). Valid fishing license required.

Standard Daily and Possession Limits

Each angler may take all of the following limits. However, a person may possess only the limit of fish allowed for the water on which they are fishing.

Species	Limit (daily and possession) Rivers & Streams	Lakes	Restrictions
Limit A — In Any Combination			
Brown trout Cutthroat trout Golden trout Lake trout Rainbow trout Grayling	5	10	Rivers & Streams: only 1 fish may exceed 14 inches
Wilderness Limits: All waters in the South Fork Flathead River drainage from Hungry Horse Dam to the wilderness boundary and all waters within the boundaries of the Bob Marshall, Great Bear, and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas unless otherwise specified under exceptions.			
Limit A — In Any Combination			
Cutthroat trout Rainbow trout	3	3	Rivers & Streams: No fish may exceed 12 inches

Species	Limit (daily and possession) Rivers & Streams	Lakes	Restrictions
Bull trout	1	1	An angler must release or kill immediately all bull trout caught. It is unlawful to possess a live bull trout.
Brook trout	20	20	
Bass	5	5	
Northern Pike	15	15	
Salmon	20	20	Possession limit is 40
Whitefish	100	100	Including fish taken for sale
Burbot (ling)	5	5	

It is unlawful to take or possess any sturgeon of the genus **Acipenser** (White Sturgeon).

Boat and Motor Restrictions

The use of boats and motors may be restricted on some of the waters within this fishing district. Please refer to the boat and motor restrictions described on page 3. A complete description of all the boat and motor restrictions can be obtained by contacting a license agent or any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Angler Alert

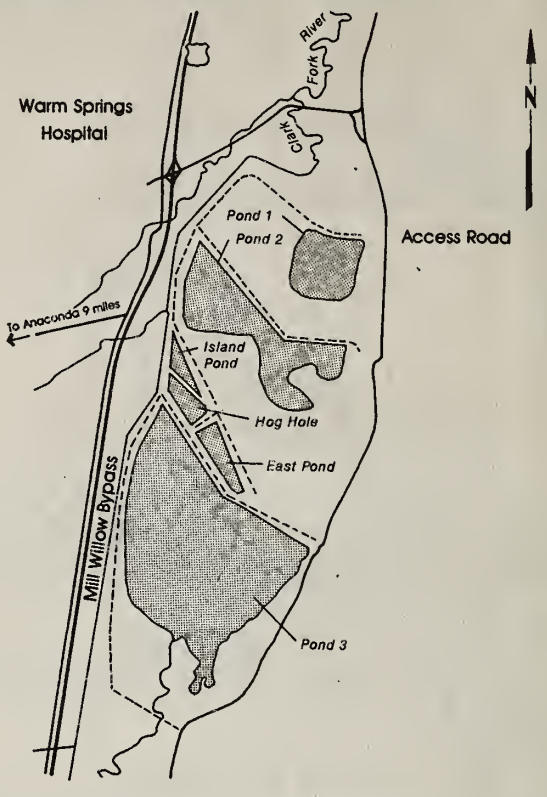
Check the district exceptions listed below for the body of water you intend to fish. If the body of water is not found in the listing of exceptions, the standard regulations, seasons, and daily/possession limits apply.

Western Fishing District Exceptions:

Abbot Lake near Bigfork

- Closed to use of rubber or spring propelled spears.
- Limit: Five (5) bass daily and in possession, only one of which may exceed 12 inches. June 1 through June 30 catch-and-release only for bass.

Anaconda Settling Pond System



- Catch-and-release, artificial lures only.
- Hog Hole open May 25 through June 30.
- Pond 3 open May 25 through September 30 to fishing from floating non-motorized craft and from north and west dikes except where posted closed.
- All ponds and canals open August 15 through September 30.

Ashley Creek downstream from Smith Lake
- Open entire year.

Ashley Creek from Thompson Falls public water supply intake to its source
- Closed entire year.

Ashley Lake
- Limit: 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession.

Ashley Lake Inlet Tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Basin Creek from lower Butte water supply reservoir dam to source, including all reservoirs and tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Big Creek (North Fork Flathead tributary) and all tributaries
- Closed entire year.

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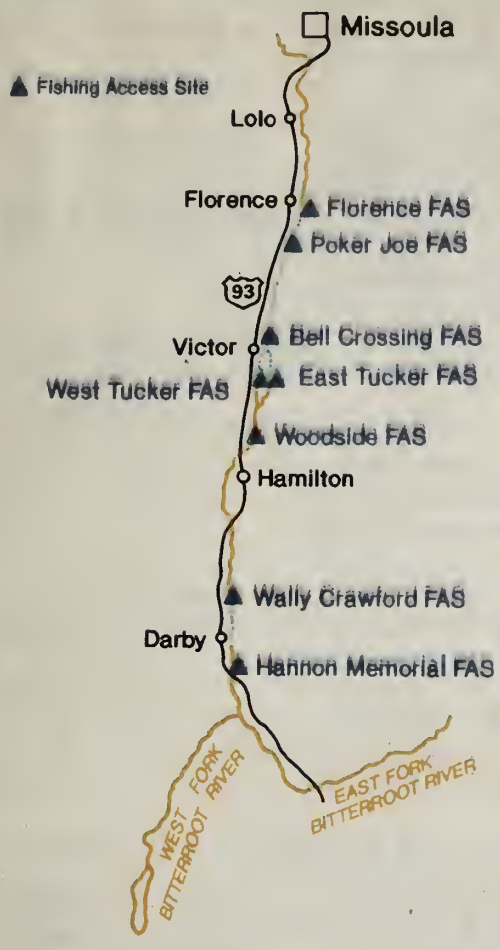
Helena, MT 59620

Bitterroot River



Special Limit Area — Mainstem and East Fork to mouth of Martin Creek and West Fork upstream to Painted Rocks Reservoir.

- Cutthroat trout catch-and-release only.
- Three (3) rainbow or brown trout alone or in combination. Only one may exceed 14 inches.
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- Open to catching of whitefish for commercial sale.

Special Limit Area — From Tucker Crossing to Florence Bridge and one mile downstream from Darby to Como Bridge.

- Catch and-release only for trout entire year.
- Artificial lures only except aquatic insects and maggots may also be used to catch whitefish from December 1 through the third Saturday in May.

Bitterroot Valley between U.S. 93 and the East Side Highway between Hamilton and Buckhouse Bridge (ditches, canals and sloughs)

- Extended northern pike and whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Blackfoot River

- Mainstem and all tributaries (except Clearwater River downstream from Lake Inez fish barrier).
  - — Limit A: Rainbow and brown trout, three (3) fish, none of which may exceed 12 inches. Cutthroat and bull trout, catch-and-release only.
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- Open for catching of whitefish for commercial sale.

Blanchard Lake near Whitefish

- Open to spearing or gigging of northern pike and nongame fish through the ice and by persons submerged in the water.

Blue Sky Creek (Kootenai Drainage)

- Open third Saturday in May through July 15.
- All bull trout must be released.

Bootjack Lake (near Whitefish, T31N, R23W, S26)
- Open April 1 through November 30.
- Limit A: One (1) trout daily and in possession, minimum size limit 22 inches, artificial lures only.

Brenneman Slough
- Closed entire year to taking of salmon.

Carpenter Lake (Tetrault Lake)
- Limit: 20 bass daily and in possession.

Cedar Creek Impoundment (Columbia Falls water supply)
- Closed entire year.

Church Slough (Flathead River)
- Open year around.
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.
- Limit: Five (5) bass daily and in possession, only one may exceed 12 inches.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring propelled spears.

Clarence Creek (Kootenai Drainage)
- Open third Saturday in May through July 15.
- All bull trout must be released.

Clark Fork River
- Open to catching of whitefish for commercial sale.
- Anaconda Company Settling No. 2 Pond spillway to Perkins Lane Bridge
  - — Limit A: Five (5) trout under 12 inches or 4 trout under 12 inches and 1 over 20 inches, artificial lures only.
- Milltown Dam to mouth of Thompson River
  - — Limit A: Five (5) trout, only one of which may exceed 16 inches.
- Anaconda Company Settling Pond No. 2 spillway (near Warm Springs) to mouth of Thompson River.
  - — Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- Mouth of Flathead River to mouth of Thompson River.
  - — Open entire year for northern pike with bait or lures.
- Mouth of Thompson River to Idaho Border.
  - — Open entire year. Lake limits apply to entire reach.

Clearwater Drainage
- Upstream from Lake Inez fish barrier and all tributaries of the Clearwater River.
  - — Limit A: Rainbow and brown trout, 3 fish, none of which may exceed 12 inches. Catch-and-release only for cutthroat and bull trout.
- Downstream from Lake Inez fish barrier.
  - — Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and 20 in possession. Open for snagging of salmon September 15 through December when 35 daily and 70 in possession shall be allowed.

Clearwater River downstream from Lake Inez fish barrier
- Open entire year.

Coal Creek (North Fork Flathead tributary) and its tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Deer Creek, tributary to Seeley Lake
- Bull trout, catch-and-release only.

Donaldson Creek Drainage, tributary of Lake Mary Ronan
- Closed entire year.

Echo Lake near Anaconda
- Open third Saturday in May through March 31.
- Limit: Five (5) trout (including brook trout).

Echo Lake near Bigfork
- Limit: Five (5) bass daily and in possession, only one of which may exceed 12 inches. June 1 through June 30 - catch-and-release only for bass.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring propelled spears by persons submerged in the water.
- Open to spearing and gigging of nongame fish and northern pike through the ice.

Elk Creek, tributary to Swan River
- Closed entire year.

Emily Springs, tributary to Georgetown Lake
- Open July 1 through November 30.
- Limit for all trout, including brook trout, is 5.

Fennon Slough (Flathead River)
- Open year around.
- Limit: Five (5) bass daily and in possession, only one may exceed 12 inches.

Fisher River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures.

Flathead Drainage (including all lakes and streams in the Flathead, Stillwater, Swan and Whitefish drainages)
- Limit: Ten (10) lake trout under 26 inches or 9 lake trout under 26 inches and one over 36 inches may be kept in addition to limit A.
- Limit: 50 lake whitefish.

Flathead Lake
- Closed entire year to snagging of salmon.
- Open May 1 through November 30 for salmon. Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and 20 in possession.
- Open third Saturday in May through March 31 for catching of whitefish for commercial sale in nonreservation waters only.
- Five (5) bass, only 2 over 15 inches and all bass from 12 inches to 15 inches must be released.
- Limit A: Two (2) cutthroat or 2 rainbow trout or 1 of each, and 10 lake trout under 26 inches or 9 lake trout under 26 inches and one over 36 inches.
- Limit: 50 lake whitefish.
- Hatchery Bay of Flathead Lake at Somers
  - — Closed as posted from October 1 until spawn taking is complete.

Flathead River
- Flathead River and all tributary streams
  - — Ten (10) lake trout under 26 inches or 9 lake trout under 26 inches and one over 36 inches may be kept in addition to Limit A.
  - — Limit: 50 lake whitefish.
- From confluence of North and Middle Forks to Sportsman's Bridge (State Highway 82)
  - — Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 through April 30 with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
  - — Open to catching of whitefish for commercial sale.
- Above Kerr Dam
  - — Closed entire year to taking of salmon.
- Flathead Reservation boundary to mouth
  - — Open entire year.
  - — Limit: Five (5) northern pike daily and in possession, minimum length 24 inches.

Flathead Indian Reservation
- Tribal fishing permit is necessary on Reservation waters.
- Check at Tribal Headquarters for specific information.

Flower Creek and its artificial impoundments from Power Dam to its source, excluding natural lakes.
- Closed entire year.

Fred Burr Lake (Philipsburg water supply, Granite County)
- Closed entire year.

Freeland Creek Drainage, tributary to Lake Mary Ronan
- Closed entire year.

Georgetown Lake
- Lake open third Saturday in May through March 31 except:
  - — The south and east shoreline is closed to fishing from the shore or within 100 yards of the shore from April 1 to July 1. The closed area extends from a point 200 yards west of the Denton's Point Marina, easterly and northerly along the shore including Stuart Mill Bay in its entirety, to a point 200 yards north of the mouth of the North Fork Flint Creek.
  - — Tributaries to Georgetown Lake (N. Fork Flint Creek, Stuart Mill Creek, Hardtla Creek and Emily Springs) open July 1 through November 30.
- Limit for all trout, including brook trout, is 5.
- No daily or possession limit for salmon.

Goat Creek (Swan River tributary)
- Closed entire year.

Granite Creek (Middle Fork Flathead River tributary) and its tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Hardtla Creek, tributary to Georgetown Lake
- Open July 1 through November 30.
- Limit for all trout, including brook trout, is 5.

Haskill Creek and tributaries from Whitefish public water intake to its source
- Closed entire year.

Herrig Creek, tributary to Little Bitterroot Lake
- Closed entire year.

Horseshoe Lake near Ferndale
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Hungry Horse Reservoir
- Wilderness Limits apply — See Wilderness Limits — Limit A.

Hungry Horse Reservoir Tributaries
- Wilderness Limits apply — See Wilderness Limits — Limit A.

Job Corps Ponds (E½ of S7, T5N, R9W Deer Lodge County)
- All ponds open August 15 through September 30.
- Catch-and-release, artificial lures only.

Keeler Creek (Kootenai Drainage)
- Open third Saturday in May through July 15.
- All bull trout must be released.

Kootenai River (also see Libby Dam)
- Open entire year, except David Thompson Bridge to Haul Bridge (Rereg Bridge Abutment T30N R30W S10) is closed to fishing March 15 to May 15.
- From Libby Dam to Idaho Border
  — Open third Saturday in May through March 31 for catching of whitefish for commercial sale , except closed as specified above

Lake Alva
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession.

Lake Blaine near Kalispell
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Lake Inez
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession.

Lake Koocanusa
- Closed to burbot (ling) fishing February 1 through last day in February.

Lake Mary Ronan
- Open third Saturday in May through March 15.
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.
- Salmon snagging allowed October 15 through November 30. Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and 20 in possession, except during snagging season when 20 salmon daily and 40 in possession are allowed.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Libby Creek
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Libby Dam
- Fishing from boats or other floating craft is prohibited in Kootenai River from Libby Dam approximately 500 yards downstream to David Thompson Bridge as posted.
- Structure as posted and the buoyed area immediately upstream from spillway.
  — Closed entire year.

Lion Creek Tributary to Swan River
- Closed entire year.

Lion Lake
- Open to spearing or gigging of northern pike and nongame fish through the ice only and by persons submerged in the water.

Little Bitterroot Lake
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout, only 1 over 22 inches.

Little Blackfoot River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Lodgepole Creek (Middle Fork Flathead River tributary) and its tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Long Creek (Middle Fork Flathead River tributary) and its tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Loon Lake (Highway 2 East)
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Loon Lake near Ferndale
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Lower Stillwater Lake
- Open to spearing or gigging of northern pike and nongame fish through the ice only.

Lower Thompson Lake
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout, only 1 over 22 inches.
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Medicine Lake near Philipsburg
- Open July 1 through April.

Medicine Lake Tributaries
- Open July 1 through November 30.

Metcalf Lake
- Open April 1 through November 30.
- Limit A: One (1) trout daily and in possession, size must exceed 22 inches, artificial lures only.

Middle Fork Flathead Drainage (All streams within the wilderness)
- Wilderness Limits apply — See Wilderness Limits — Limit A.

Middle Fork Flathead River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures.
- Closed entire year to taking of salmon.

Middle Thompson Lake
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout, only 1 over 22 inches.
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Morrison Creek (Middle Fork Flathead River tributary) and its tributaries
- Closed entire year.

Murphy Lake near Fortine
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

No Tellum Lake
- Open April 1 through November 30.
- Limit A: One (1) trout daily and in possession, size must exceed 22 inches, artificial lures only.

North Fork Flathead River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures.
- Closed entire year to taking of salmon.
- U.S./Canadian border downstream to Polebridge.
  — Limit A: Five (5) cutthroat or rainbow trout under 12 inches, or 4 under 12 inches and 1 over 20 inches, artificial lures only.

North Fork Flint Creek, tributary to Georgetown Lake.
- Open July 1 through November 30.
- Daily limit for all trout, including brook trout, is 5.

Noxon Rapids Reservoir
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.

O'Brien Creek from Troy city water intake to a point one-fourth mile upstream as posted
- Closed entire year.

Peterson Lake near Bigfork
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.
- Limit: Five (5) bass daily and in possession, only one of which may exceed 12 inches. June 1 through June 30 — catch-and-release only for bass.

Placid Creek, tributary to Placid Lake.
- Limit: Bull trout, catch-and-release only.
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession. Open for snagging of salmon September 15 through December 31 when 35 daily and 70 in possession are allowed.

Placid Lake and tributaries
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession. Open for snagging of salmon September 15 through December 31 when 35 daily and 70 in possession are allowed.

Quartz Creek (Kootenai drainage)
- Open third Saturday in May through July 15.
- All bull trout must be released.

Rattlesnake Creek
- Upstream from mouth of Beeskove Creek
  — Open entire year. Catch-and-release with artificial lures only.
- Rattlesnake Creek and tributaries from Missoula water supply dam of Mountain Water Company to mouth of Beeskove Creek
  — Closed entire year.

Rock Creek from its mouth to mouth of West Fork Rock Creek
- Artificial lures only except anglers 14 years and younger may use bait.
- Limit A: Three (3) trout per day under 12 inches or 2 trout under 12 inches and 1 over 20 inches.
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- Closed to fishing from boats July 1 through November 30.

Rogers Lake spawning inlet.
- Closed entire year.

Salmon Lake and tributaries
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession. Open for snagging of salmon September 15 through December 31 when 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession are allowed.

Seeley Lake
- Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and in possession. Open for snagging of salmon September 15 through December 31 when 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession are allowed.

South Fork Flathead Drainage (all waters upstream from Hungry Horse Dam including Hungry Horse Reservoir)
- Wilderness Limits apply — See Wilderness Limits — Limit A.

South Fork Flathead River
- Closed entire year to taking of salmon.
- Upstream from Hungry Horse Dam.
  — Wilderness Limts apply — See Wilderness Limits — Limit A.
- Downstream from Hungry Horse Dam to "Devils Elbow" as posted.
  — Closed entire year.
- From Meadow Creek bridge to Spotted Bear footbridge.
  — Artificial lures only.
  — Limit A: cutthroat trout, catch-and-release only.

Spencer Lake
- Open April 1 through November 30.
- Limit A: One (1) trout daily and in possession, size must exceed 22 inches, artificial lures only.

Squeezer Creek (Swan River tributary)
- Closed entire year.

Stahl Creek (Kootenai Drainage)
- Open third Saturday in May through July 15. All bull trout must be released.

Stillwater River from mouth of Sunday Creek to lower Stillwater Lake
- Open entire year.
- Stillwater River and all tributaries
  — 10 lake trout under 26 inches or 9 lake trout under 26 inches and 1 over 36 inches may be kept in addition to Limit A.
  — Limit: 50 lake whitefish.

Stuart Mill Creek, tributary to Georgetown Lake
- Open July 1 through November 30.
- Daily limit for all trout, including brook trout, is 5.

Swan Lake
- Limit: 50 salmon daily and 100 in possession.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring propelled spears.

Swan River
- Piper Creek Bridge downstream to Swan Lake
  — Limit A: Catch-and-release for rainbow and cutthroat trout, artificial lures only.
- From Swan Lake to Bigfork Dam
  — Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- From Bigfork Dam to Flathead Lake
  — Closed entire year to taking of salmon.
- Downstream from Electric Avenue Bridge
  — Flathead Lake limits and seasons apply.

Tally Lake
- Limit: 50 salmon daily and 100 in possession.

Tetrault Lake (Carpenter Lake)
- Limit: 20 bass daily and in possession.

Thompson River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Tobacco River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Trail Creek (Yakinikak) and its tributaries downstream from mouth of Thoma Creek
- Closed entire year.

Upper Stillwater Lake
- Open to spearing or gigging of northern pike and nongame fish through the ice only.

Upper Thompson Lake
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout, only one over 22 inches.
- June 1 through June 30, catch-and-release only for bass.
- Closed to use of rubber or spring-propelled spears.

Upsata Lake
- Bass catch-and-release only.

West Fork Quartz Creek (Kootenai Drainage)
- Open third Saturday in May through July 15.
- All bull trout must be released.

Whale Creek (North Fork Flathead tributary) and its tributaries downstream from Whale Creek Falls
- Closed entire year.

Whitefish Lake
- Closed entire year to snagging of salmon. Limit: Ten (10) salmon daily and 20 in possession.
- Ten (10) lake trout under 26 inches or 9 lake trout under 26 inches and 1 over 36 inches may be kept in addition to Limit A.
- Limit: 50 lake whitefish.

Whitefish River from Whitefish Lake to Montana State Highway 40 bridge.
- Open entire year.

Wigwam River (Kootenai Drainage)
- Catch-and-release only for all trout, artificial lures only.

Wildlife Management Ponds—
- See "Job Corps Ponds"

Woods Lake
- Open April 1 through November 30.
- Limit A: One (1) trout daily and in possession, size must exceed 22 inches, artificial lures only.

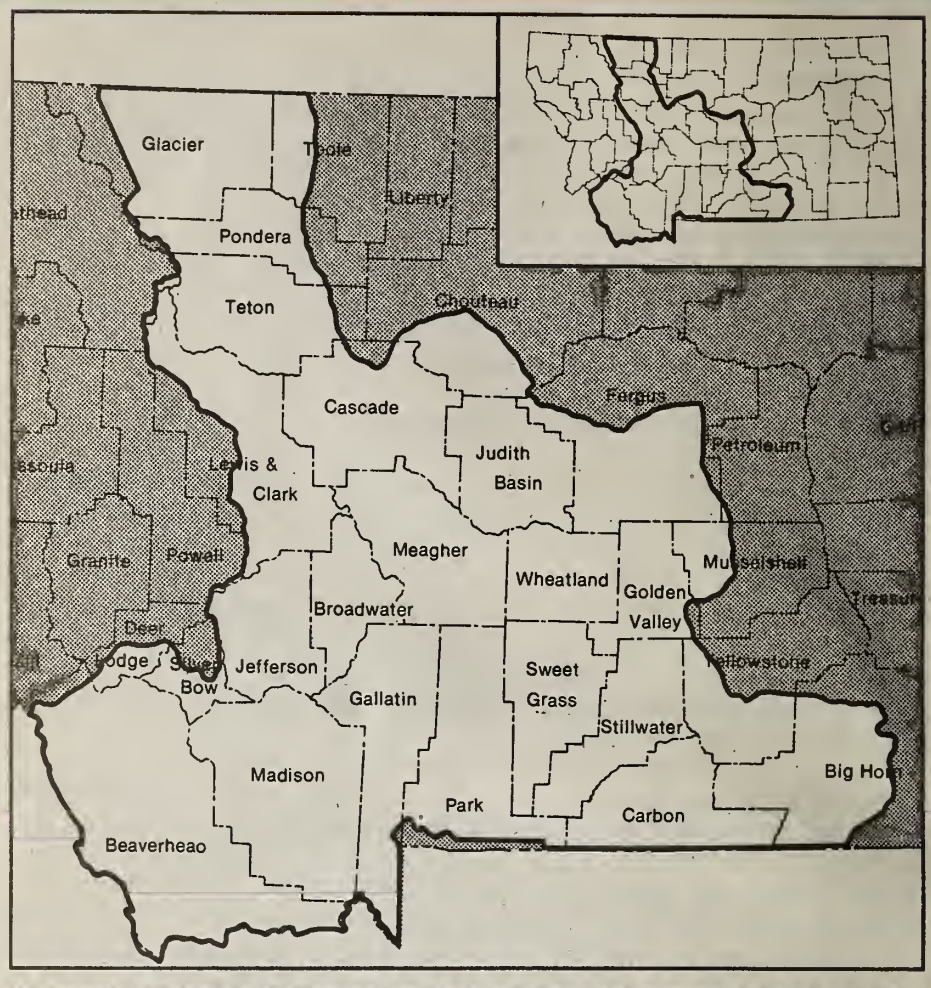
Young Creek (tributary to Lake Koocanusa) and Young Creek Bay as posted
- Closed entire year.

Remember

ASK FIRST!!

to Hunt and Fish on Private Land

CENTRAL FISHING DISTRICT



Central Fishing District includes all waters in Montana lying East of the Continental Divide, (including the Belly and St. Marys Drainages) and waters lying West of the following described boundary.

Interstate 15 from the Montana-Canadian border south to Northwest Bypass Junction near Great Falls, then east on said Bypass to Smelter Avenue, then east on Smelter Avenue to 15th Street, then south on said street to north bank of Missouri River, then east along high water mark of the Missouri River to Black Eagle Dam, then across said dam and following high water mark along the south bank of the Missouri River, then easterly to State Route 80 at Fort Benton; then southeasterly along State Route 80 to its junction with State Route 81, then easterly on State Route 81 to its junction with U.S. Highway 191, then northeasterly along U.S. Highway 191 to its junction with State Route 19, then south on State Route 19 to its junction with U.S. Highway 87, then south on U.S. Highway 87 to its junction with U.S. Highway 12, then west on U.S. Highway 12 to its junction with State Route 3, then south on State Route 3 to its junction with Interstate 90, then easterly and southerly on Interstate 90 to the first crossing of the Little Bighorn River, then southerly along the west bank of the Little Bighorn River to the Montana-Wyoming border.

For additional information regarding fishing the water bodies in this district, please call the following regional headquarters:

Great Falls. 454-3441
Bozeman 994-4042
Billings 252-4654
TDD (Telephone device for the deaf) 444-1200.

Standard Fishing Seasons

Lakes — Open entire year.
Rivers and Streams — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
Setlines — Anglers may use setlines in those waters open to setline fishing as specified under exceptions. Unattended setlines must be clearly identified with owner's complete name and address. Valid fishing license required.
Bow and Arrow — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow taking of nongame fish. Crossbows are illegal. Valid fishing license required.
Snagging — All waters open to angling are open to snagging of nongame fish. Valid fishing license required.
Spearing — All waters open to angling are open to taking of nongame fish and burbot with rubber or spring-propelled spear by persons swimming or submerged. Valid fishing license required.

Standard Daily and Possession Limits

Each angler may take all of the following limits. However, a person may possess only the limit allowed for the water on which they are fishing.

Species	Limit (daily and possession) Rivers & Streams	Lakes	Restrictions
Limit A — In Any Combination			
Brown trout, Cutthroat trout, Golden trout, Lake trout, Rainbow trout, Grayling	5	10	Rivers & Streams: only 1 fish may exceed 18 inches
Wilderness Limits:			
All waters within the boundaries of the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas unless otherwise specified under exceptions.			
Limit A — In Any Combination			
Cutthroat trout, Rainbow trout	3	3	Rivers & Streams: No fish may exceed 12 inches
Grayling	Catch-and-Release only		

Species	Limit (daily and possession) Rivers & Streams	Lakes	Restrictions
Brook trout	20	20	
Bass	5	5	
Sauger/Walleye	5	5	In any combination
Northern Pike	10	10	
Tiger Muskellunge	1	1	30 inch minimum size
Salmon	10	10	
Whitefish	100	100	Including fish taken for sale

There are exceptions on some waters for catfish, burbot (ling), sturgeon and nongame fish. The maximum weight sturgeon (genus Scaphirhynchus) which may be taken is 16 pounds.

It is unlawful to take or possess a Pallid Sturgeon (Scaphirhynchus albus) of any size.

Bait (Live)

- Sculpins (genus Cottus) may be used for live bait in all waters of the Central District except in waters limited to artificial lures and the Madison River between Varney Bridge and Ennis Lake.
- Live nongame fish [except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch and rainbow smelt] may be used for bait only in the following waters:
  - — Bighorn Lake and Afterbay Reservoir
  - — Bighorn River—Afterbay Dam to cable 600 feet downstream and below Bighorn Access Area.
  - — Clarks Fork Yellowstone River—downstream from bridge at Bridger.
  - — Marias River.
  - — Muddy Creek Drainage near Vaughn including all streams and drainage canals.
  - — Streams and ditches in the Yellowstone River Drainage downstream of the mouth of the Clarks Fork (except for a section of the Bighorn River).

Boat and Motor Restrictions

The use of boats and motors may be restricted on some of the waters within this fishing district. Please refer to the boat and motor restrictions described on page 3. A complete description of all the boat and motor restrictions can be obtained by contacting a license agent or any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Montana Stream Access Law

Under the Montana Stream Access Law, rivers and streams capable of recreational use may be so used by the public up to the ordinary high water marks. Although Montana law gives sportsmen the right to pursue water-based recreational activities within the high water marks of rivers and streams, it does not give recreationists the right to enter posted lands bordering those streams or to cross private lands to gain access to streams.

The success or failure of the law hinges on the behavior of landowners and recreationists. We emphasize the need for cooperation and mutual respect.

Recreationists are urged to obtain more detailed information from any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Montana Trespass Law

Montana's trespass law states that a member of the public has the privilege to enter or remain on private land by the explicit permission of the landowner or his agent, or by the failure of the landowner to post notice denying entry onto the land.

It is the responsibility of the recreationist to determine whether private lands are posted. If lands are posted, it is the recreationist's responsibility to obtain permission from landowners before recreating on these lands. Recreationists are urged to obtain more detailed information from any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Angler Alert

Check the district exceptions listed below for the body of water you intend to fish. If the body of water is not found in the listing of exceptions, the standard regulations, seasons, and daily/possession limits apply.

Central Fishing District Exceptions:

Alder Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Alder Gulch Creek and dredge ponds mouth to Virginia City
- Open entire year.

Antelope Butte Lake (see Ostle Reservoir)

Armstrong Spring Creek
- Open entire year.
- Artificial flies and lures only.
- Catch-and-release only.

Arod Lakes (see Eyraud Lakes)

Axolotl Lakes
- Limit A: five (5) trout.
- Catch-and-release only for grayling.

Badger Creek Drainage near Heart Butte, within National Forest
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

Beaverhead River
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, only 1 over 18 inches and only 1 rainbow trout.
- Clark Canyon Dam to Pipe Organ Bridge
  — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Downstream from Pipe Organ Bridge
  — Open entire year.

Belt Creek below bridge at Riceville
- Open entire year.

Big Hole River

▲ Fishing Access Site

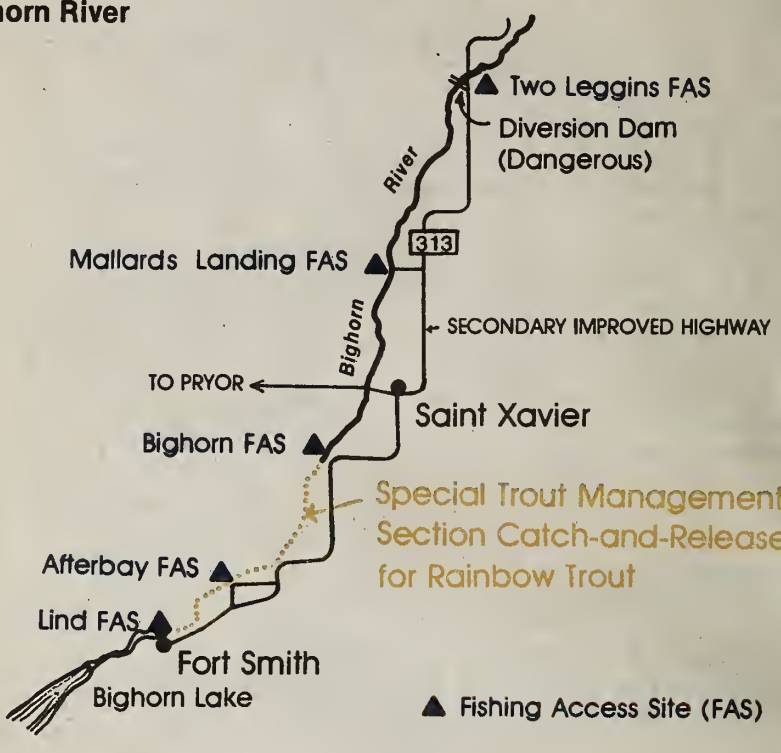
Exceptions
- Entire river and all tributaries
  — Catch-and-release only for grayling.
  — Brook trout limit, 20 fish.
  — Whitefish limit 100.
- Tributaries upstream from Divide Dam
  — Open entire year for brook trout.
- Dickie Bridge (Highway 43 crossing west of Wise River in T1N, R12W, S11) to Divide Dam
  — Limit A: Four (4) trout limit, 3 fish under 13 inches and 1 over 22 inches, artificial lures only.
  — Special whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with maggots and/or artificial lures only.
- Divide Dam to Melrose Bridge
  — Closed to all fishing December 1 to third Saturday in May.
  — Limit A: Four (4) trout limit, 3 fish under 13 inches and 1 over 22 inches, artificial lures only.

Big Lake Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Big Spring Creek (Lewistown)
- Open entire year.

Bighorn Lake and Afterbay Reservoir
- Limit: Six (6) walleye, sauger and bass in any combination.
- Catfish limit is 6.
- Up to six (6) attended lines, with one (1) hook per line allowed through the ice only.

Bighorn River



Exceptions
- Afterbay Dam to cable 600 feet downstream and below Bighorn Access Area.
  - — Open entire year.
  - — Limit A: Five (5) trout only 1 of which may be over 18 inches and only one (1) of which may be rainbow trout.
- Cable 600 feet below Afterbay Dam to Bighorn Access Area
  - — Open entire year.
  - — Artificial lures only.
  - — Limit A: Five (5) trout only 1 of which may be over 18 inches. Catch-and-release only for rainbow trout.

Black Sands Spring Creek (tributary to South Fork Madison River)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Bluewater Creek
- Open entire year.

Boulder River near Big Timber
- Entire drainage (including tributaries)
  - — Open entire year.
- Limit A: Two (2) trout, only one may be over 13 inches.
- Natural Bridge to 2 Mile Bridge
  - — Catch-and-release only for rainbow trout, artificial lures only.

Boulder River near Cardwell, mouth to bridge four airline miles upstream in T2N R3W S24
- Open third Saturday in May through September 30.

Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted
- Closed entire year.

Brimstone Creek (tributary to Hidden Lake, Madison Drainage)
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.

Bull Creek (Big Hole Drainage near Jackson)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Bynum Reservoir
- Open entire year to fishing with up to two (2) lines with two (2) hooks per line, except that six (6) lines with two (2) hooks per line may be used to fish through ice.

Canyon Ferry Dam Structure
- Closed as posted.

Canyon Ferry Reservoir
- Setline fishing allowed through the ice only with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.

Clark Canyon Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.
- Springs entering reservoir at South end, near Red Rock River — Closed as posted.
- Limit: Ten (10) burbot (ling) daily and in possession.

Clarks Fork Yellowstone River
- Open entire year.
- Downstream from bridge at Bridger — Setline fishing allowed entire year with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to six (6) hooks per line.

Cliff Lake (Madison River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Cougar Creek (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Culver Pond (Widow's Pool) (Beaverhead County)
- Open July 15 through September 30, artificial lures only.
- Limit: Four (4) brook trout under 12 inches and 1 over 18 inches.

Cut Bank Creek downstream of Blackfeet Indian Reservation boundary in T33N, R6W, S2
- Open entire year.

Dailey Lake (Yellowstone River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Darlington Ditch (Darlington Spring Creek) on Cobblestone Fishing Access Site (near Three Forks)
- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release for trout and grayling.
- Artificial lures only.

Deadman's Basin Reservoir
- Salmon snagging allowed through ice only. The snagging limit is 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession.

Dearborn River downstream from Highway 434 Bridge
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release only for trout from December 1 to third Saturday in May.

Deep Creek near Wise River (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Dickens Lake (Sun River Game Range)
- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

Diversion Lake (Sun River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout, catch-and-release only for grayling.

Duck Creek (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

East Fork Hyalite Creek
- Open third Saturday in July through November 30.

East Fork LaMarche Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

East Gallatin River downstream from the mouth of Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek
- Open entire year.

Elk Lake (Beaverhead County)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Eyraud (Arod) Lakes
- Open entire year to fishing with up to two (2) lines with two (2) hooks per line except that six (6) lines with two (2) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- Spearing or gigging northern pike and nongame fish open through the ice only.

Fairground Pond, Helena
- Children's fishing water, see page 5.

Ferguson Lake (T1N R12W S31, Big Hole River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Foolhen Lake (T1N R12W S29, Big Hole River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Gallatin River
- Open entire year.
- Yellowstone Park to East Gallatin River — Closed to fishing from boats.

Gibson Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) trout, catch-and-release only for grayling.

Goose Lake (Madison County)
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Governor Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Grayling Creek (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Harrison (Willow Creek) Reservoir (Madison County)
- Limit: Five (5) trout, only one over 18 inches.
- Willow Creek arm, as posted
  — Open third Saturday in May through February.

Hauser Dam structure and adjacent water as posted.
- Closed entire year.

Hauser Lake (includes Canyon Ferry tailwater)
- Limit: Ten (10) trout and salmon in combination
- Five (5) walleye, only one of which may exceed 20 inches.
- Setline fishing allowed through the ice only with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.

Haypress Lakes (Madison County)
- Lower Lake — Limit A: Three (3) trout
- Middle Lake — Catch-and-release, artificial lures only.
- Upper Lake — Catch-and-release, artificial lures only.

Hebgen Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir
- Open for salmon snagging September 1 through October 31 when the limit shall be 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession.
- Open to setline fishing through the ice only with up to three (3) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.

Hidden Lake (Madison County)
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Hidden Lake (Our Lake - Teton County)
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, no size limit.

Holter Reservoir
- Open entire year.
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout and salmon in any combination except all brown trout must be released.
- Walleye: Three (3) under 18 inches and 1 over 24 inches. All walleye between 18 and 24 inches must be released.
- All waters between American Bar Gulch (located approximately 4.6 miles downstream from Hauser Dam - T12N R3W S11) and Holter Dam are considered Holter Reservoir (lake) for the purposes of fishing regulations.
- Setline fishing through the ice only with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.

Howell Creek (Big Hole Drainage near Wisdom)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Hyalite Creek
- See Middle Creek, East Fork Hyalite Creek, and West Fork Hyalite Creek.

Hyalite Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) fish, only one of which may be a grayling.

Indian Creek, Sheridan from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted.
- Closed entire year.

Intake Reservoir, Glacier Park Hotel Company water supply
- Closed entire year.

Jacobson Creek
- Limit A: Catch-and-release only for cutthroat trout
- Artificial lures only.

Jefferson River
- Open entire year.
- Limit A: Five (5) brown trout with only 1 over 18 inches.
- Catch-and-release only for rainbow trout.

Kiyo Lake (Pondera County)
- Limt A: Three (3) trout, no size limit.

LaMarche Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Lake Francis
- Around water supply outlet as posted
  — Closed entire year.
- Except portion closed as posted
  — Open entire year to fishing with up to two (2) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line, except through the ice when up to six (6) lines with up to two (2) hooks per line may be used.
  — Spearing or gigging northern pike, walleye, sauger, burbot (ling) and nongame fish open through the ice only.

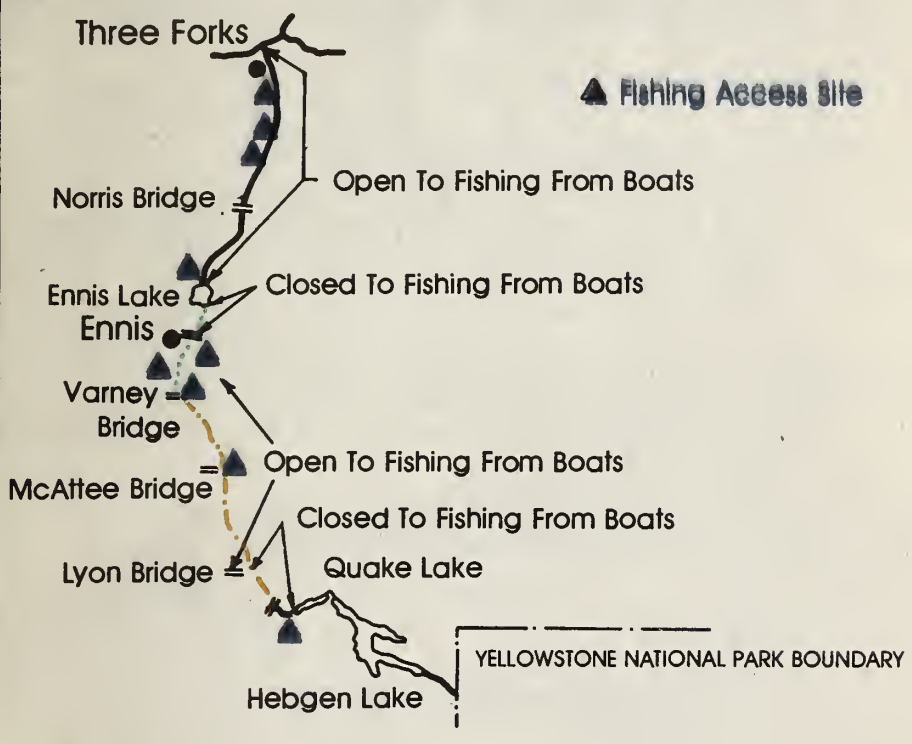
Lake Helena
- Open to setline fishing through the ice only with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.

Lightning Creek (Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness)
- Open August 1 through November 30.

Little Prickly Pear Creek (downstream from Interstate Bridge near Sieben, T13N, R4W, S4)
- Open third Saturday in May through Labor Day.
- Upstream from the Interstate Bridge
  — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

Lyman Creek, Bozeman from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted
- Closed entire year.

Madison River



Seasons and Limits
- Entire Madison River
  — Catch-and-release only for grayling.
- Yellowstone National Park boundary to Hebgen Lake
  — Open Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30. Standard Limits Apply.
- Hebgen Lake to Quake Lake
  — Open entire year.
  — Standard limits apply.
- Quake Lake outlet to Varney Bridge
  — Open entire year
  — Artificial lures only
  — Catch-and-release for trout.
- Varney Bridge to Ennis Lake
  — Open third Saturday in May through February.
  — Sculpins not allowed for bait.
  — Limit A: 5 brown trout per day, only 1 of which may exceed 18 inches, all rainbow trout must be released.
- Ennis Dam to the mouth
  — Open entire year.
  — Standard Limits apply.

Boating Restrictions
- Quake Lake Outlet to Lyon Bridge
  — Closed to fishing from boats.
- Ennis Bridge to Ennis Lake
  — Closed to fishing from boats.

Marias River
- Open entire year including setline fishing with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to six (6) hooks per line.

McDonalds Pond (Beaverhead County)
- Open July 15 through September 30, artificial lures only.
- Limit A: One (1) rainbow trout over 20 inches in length.

Middle Creek (Hyalite Creek), near Bozeman from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted
- Closed entire year.

Midvale Creek from intake of Glacier Park Hotel Company water supply to park boundary
- Closed entire year.

Mill Creek near Sheridan
- Open entire year.

Miner Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Missouri River
- Downstream from Three Forks
  — Open entire year.
- Toston Dam structure as posted
  — Closed entire year.
- Just below Canyon Ferry Dam as posted
  — Closed entire year; Hauser Lake limits apply in Canyon Ferry tailwater area.
- Waters from Hauser Dam downstream approximately 4.6 miles to American Bar Gulch (T12N R3W S11) are considered Missouri River for the purpose of fishing regulations.
- Hauser Dam downstream to Holter Dam
  — Catch-and-release only for brown trout.
- Holter Dam, abutment and spillway structures below the dam
  — Closed entire year.
- Holter Dam to Cascade Bridge
  — Limit A: May include only 1 brown trout, minimum length 22 inches.
- Between bridges at Craig and Sheep Creek
  — Open to spear fishing for whitefish with rubber or spring-propelled spears by person swimming or submerged. Limit five (5) whitefish daily.
- Holter Dam to Black Eagle Dam
  — Open entire year for commercial whitefish fishing.

Musselshell River (downstream from confluence of North and South Forks)
- Open entire year.

Nelson Spring Creek
- Open entire year.
- Catch-and-release only, artificial lures only.

Newlan Creek Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

North Fork Big Hole River
- Open entire year for whitefish and brook trout.

North Fork Birch Creek Drainage near Dupuyer, within National Forest
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

North Fork Dupuyer Creek Drainage near Dupuyer, within National Forest
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

North Fork Sun River
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, only 1 may exceed 12 inches
- Catch-and-release only for grayling.

North Fork Teton River Drainage near Choteau, within National Forest
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

North Willow Creek, Harrison from Highway 287 bridge to Willow Creek Reservoir
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.

Norwegian Creek
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.

O'Brien Creek above Neihart public water intake
- Closed entire year.

Ostle Reservoir (Antelope Butte Lake, Teton County)
- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

Otter Lake, Madison County
- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Our Lake (See Hidden Lake — Teton County)

Pattengail Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Pintler Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Pishkun Reservoir
- Open entire year for fishing with up to two (2) lines with two (2) hooks per line except that six (6) lines with two (2) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- Salmon snagging September 1 through December where the limit shall be 35 salmon daily and 70 in possession.
- Spearing or gigging of northern pike and nongame fish through the ice only.

Plimpton Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Poindexter Slough
- Open entire year.
- From December 1 to third Saturday in May, artificial flies and lures only, catch-and-release only.

Priest Butte Lake
- Open June 15 through September 15 and December 1 through February.

Quake Lake (Madison Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Rat Lake (T5S R4E S12, Gallatin River Drainage)
- Limt A: Five (5) trout.
- Unnamed tributary to the lake is closed entire year as posted.

Rattlesnake Creek, Dillon from city water supply intake to a point 1,000 feet upstream as posted.
- Closed entire year.

Red Canyon Creek (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Red Lodge Creek downstream from Cooney Dam
- Open entire year.

Renshaw Lake
- Limit A: Three (3) trout, no size limit.

Rock Creek, tributary to Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River.
- Open entire year.

Ruby River downstream from Ruby Dam
- Open entire year.

Rumbaugh Creek
- Open June 15 through November 15.

Sawtooth Lake (T4S R12W S36, Beaverhead River Drainage)
- Golden trout limit one (1) fish.

Scott Lake (T52 R1W S30, Beaverhead River Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Shields River
- Extended whitefish season and catch-and-release for trout open December 1 to the third Saturday in May with aquatic insects, maggots and/or artificial lures only.

Silver Creek, Marysville
- Catch-and-release fishing from Gold Sil Mine as posted to Green Meadow Drive.
- Downstream from I-15 Bridge near Helena.
  — Open third Saturday in May through Labor Day.

Sixmile Creek and tributaries (tributary to Yellowstone River)
- Catch-and-release only, artificial lures only.

Smith Lake (Madison County)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Releasing Fish

To ensure a released fish has the best chance for survival:

- Play the fish as rapidly as possible — do not play it to total exhaustion.
- Keep the fish in water as much as possible when handling and removing a hook.
- Remove the hook gently — do not squeeze the fish or put fingers in its gills.
- If deeply hooked, cut the line. Do not yank the hook out. Most fish survive with hooks left in them.
- Release the fish only after its equilibrium is maintained. If necessary, gently hold the fish upright facing upstream and move it slowly back and forth.
- Release the fish in quiet water close to the area where it was hooked.

Smith River

Exceptions

- Downstream from confluence of North and South Forks — Open entire year.

. . . Special Limit Area

- From confluence of Rock Creek to Eden (Huntsberger) Bridge — Artificial lures only. Limit A: Three (3) fish under 13 inches and 1 fish per day over 22 inches.
- Children under the age of 12 may fish with bait.
- Aquatic insects, maggots and artificial lures may be used December 1 through third Saturday in May.

Floaters Notice—A mandatory floater fee and registration is in effect on the Smith River. A Smith River Floaters Guide is also available. Please call the Great Falls Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office at 454-3441

South Fork Birch Creek Drainage near Dupuyer, within National Forest

- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

South Fork Dupuyer Creek Drainage near Dupuyer, within National Forest

- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

South Fork Madison River (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)

- Open June 15 through November 30.

South Fork Sun River

- Limit A: Three (3) trout, only 1 over 12 inches.
- Catch-and-release only for grayling.

South Fork Two Medicine River Drainage, within National Forest

- Limit A: Three (3) trout, none may exceed 12 inches.

Sourdough Creek

- See Bozeman Creek.

South Willow Creek, Harrison from Highway 287 bridge to Willow Creek Reservoir

- Open third Saturday in June through November 30.

Split Rock Lake

- Open entire year for setline fishing with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to two (2) hooks per line.
- Spearing or gigging for northern pike, and nongame fish through the ice only.

Spring Meadow Lake

- Closed to motor propelled water craft.
- Open to fishing by hook and line only.
- Limit: Five (5) trout; One (1) bass.

Squaw Creek (Big Hole River Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Stillwater River
- Open entire year.
- Limit A: Two (2) trout, only 1 over 13 inches.

Sun River Drainage
- All streams, ditches and canals catch-and-release for grayling.
- Downstream from Gibson Dam
  — Open entire year.
- North and South Forks of Sun River
  — Limit A: Three (3) trout, only 1 may exceed 12 inches
  — Catch-and-release for grayling.

Sunny Slope Canal downstream of Pishkun Reservoir
- Limit A: Five (5) trout
- Catch-and-release only for grayling.

Swamp Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Swazee Lake (Sun River Game Range)
- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.

Tahepia Lake (Wise River drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Teton River downstream from Highway 89 bridge
- Open entire year.

Toston Dam structure as posted
- Closed entire year.

Trapper Creek
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Tunnel Lake (Teton County)
- Limt A may include only 1 grayling.

Vigilante Pond (near Virginia City)
- Children's fishing water, see page 5.

Wade Lake (Madison County)
- Open entire year. Spawning channel and channel inlet closed as posted.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Warm Springs Creek (Lewistown)
- Open entire year.
- Limit A: Ten (10) trout.

Watkins Creek (tributary to Hebgen Reservoir)
- Open June 15 through November 30.

Waukena Lake (Big Hole Drainage)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

West Fork Hyalite Creek
- Open third Saturday in July through November 30.

West Fork LaMarche Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

West Fork Rock Creek from Red Lodge water intake 1,000 feet upstream
- Closed entire year.

Willow Creek and tributaries from White Sulphur Springs public water intake to source
- Closed entire year.

Willow Creek Reservoir (Madison County)
- See Harrison Reservoir

Wise River (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

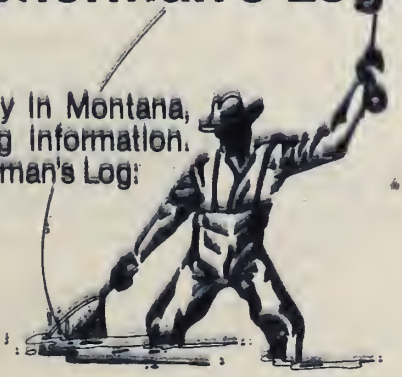
Wood Lake (Sun River)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Wyman Creek (Big Hole Drainage)
- Open entire year for brook trout.

Fisherman's Log

If you fish regularly in Montana, help gather fishing information. Write for the Fisherman's Log:

Department of Fish,
Wildlife & Parks
1400 South 19th
Bozeman, MT 59715



Yellowstone River

Seasons and Limits

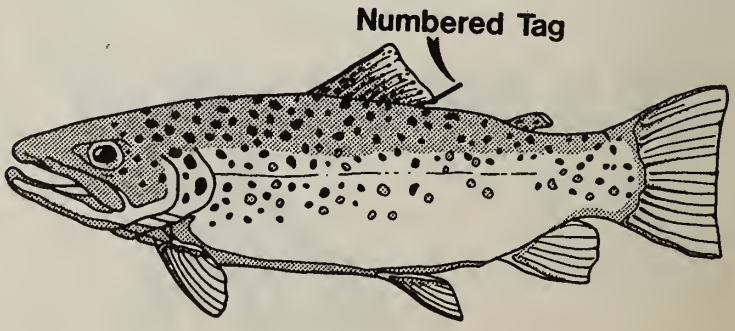
- Yellowstone National Park Boundary to Emigrant Bridge **AND** Pine Creek Bridge to I-90 Bridge at Billings:
  - — Open entire year.
  - — Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.
  - — Open entire year for commercial whitefish fishing.
  - — Whitefish limit 100.
  - — Limit A: Five (5) trout of which only one can exceed 18 inches.
- Mouth of Clarks Fork to I-90 Bridge at Billings
  - — Open entire year to setline fishing with up to six (6) attended or unattended lines with up to six (6) hooks per line.
  - — Live fish (except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch, and rainbow smelt) allowed for bait in streams and ditches of the Yellowstone drainage, except for a section of the Bighorn River.

. . . Special Limit Area

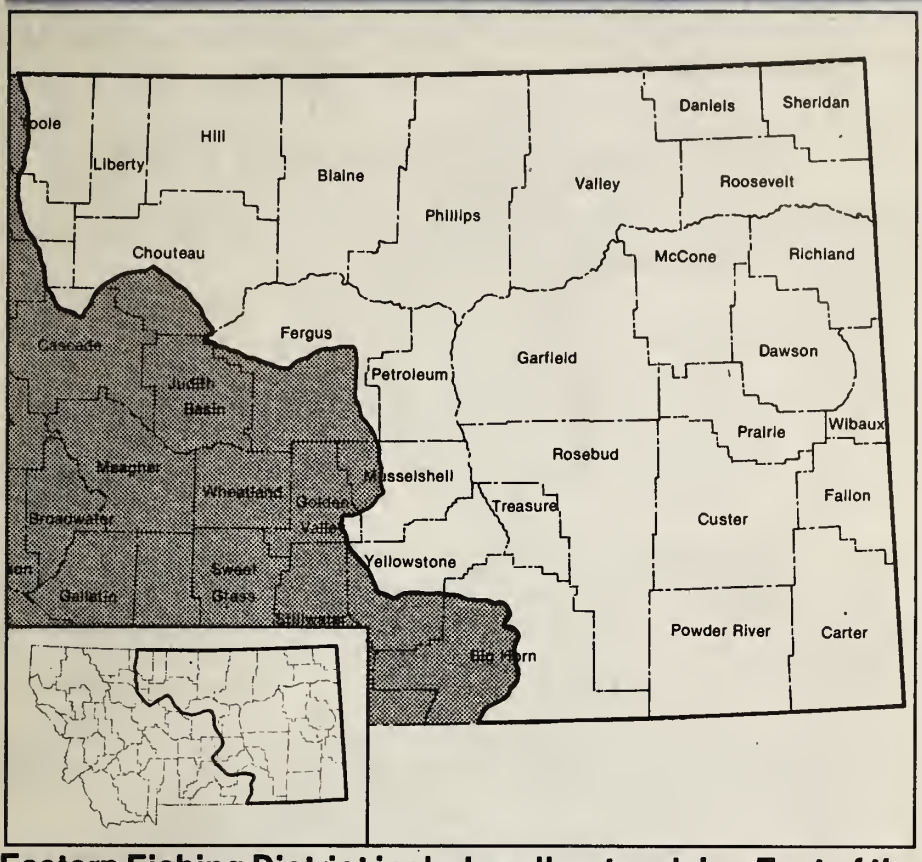
- Emigrant Bridge to Pine Creek Bridge
  - — Artificial lures only except that aquatic insects and maggots may be used as bait for whitefish between December 1 and the third Saturday in May.
  - — Limit A: Brown and rainbow trout, 5 fish limit of which 4 may be under 13 inches and 1 fish over 22 inches.
  - — Catch-and-release for cutthroat trout.

Numbered Tag

- If you catch a tagged fish, please advise the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks of the:
  - — Tag number and color
  - — Date fish was caught
  - — Species of fish
  - — Length and weight (close as possible)
  - — Location of catch (river - lake and specific area in miles from or to the nearest landmark)
  - — Name and address of angler



EASTERN FISHING DISTRICT



Eastern Fishing District includes all waters lying East of the Central Fishing District. For the boundary description, see Central Fishing District.

For additional information regarding fishing the water bodies in this district, please call the following regional headquarters:

Great Falls.....454-3441 Glasgow.....228-9347
Billings.....252-4654 Miles City.....232-4365
TDD (Telephone device for the deaf) 444-1200.

Standard Fishing Seasons

All waters open entire year.

Setlines — All lakes open to fishing are open to setline fishing through the ice only, except as specified under exceptions. Setlines shall not be attached to jugs or other free-floating devices except where their use is specified in district regulations. Valid fishing license required.

All streams in Yellowstone Drainage open entire year to setlines.

Anglers may use up to six (6) setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in those waters open to setline fishing except as specified under exceptions.

Unattended setlines must be clearly identified with owner's complete name and address.

Bow and Arrow — All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow taking of paddlefish and nongame fish (except a portion of Yellowstone River). Cross bows are illegal. Valid fishing license required.

Snagging — All waters open to angling are open to snagging of paddlefish. All waters open to angling are open to snagging of nongame fish except the Missouri River and portions of the Yellowstone River. Valid fishing license required.

Spearing — Nongame fish and burbot (ling) may be taken with rubber or spring-propelled spears by persons swimming or submerged in all waters open to fishing. Valid fishing license required.

Spears or gigs may be used through the ice only for northern pike, walleye, sauger, burbot (ling) and nongame fish.

Standard Daily and Possession Limits

Each angler may take all of the following limits unless listed under exceptions. However, a person may possess only the limit allowed for the water on which they are fishing.

Species	Limit (daily and possession) Rivers & Streams	Lakes	Restrictions
Limit A — In Any Combination			
Grayling, Salmon, All trout except Lake trout	10	10	
Lake trout	3	3	
Sauger, Walleye	5	5	In any combination Possession limit is 10 fish
Northern Pike	5	5	
Tiger Muskellunge	1	1	30 inch minimum
Bass	5	5	
Paddlefish	2	2	Tags are required. Limit two per year.

There is not a limit on catfish, burbot (ling), shovelnose sturgeon, whitefish, cisco, and nongame fish. There are some exceptions. The maximum weight sturgeon (genus: Scaphirhynchus) which may be taken is 16 pounds.

It is unlawful to take or possess a pallid sturgeon (Scaphirhyncus albus) of any size.

Hoop Nets

- Hoop nets without wings or leads may be used to take nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), and shovelnose sturgeon in Yellowstone River downstream from mouth of Bighorn River, Milk River downstream from Highway 2 Bridge below Dodson Dam and Missouri River downstream from mouth of Milk River, except: Closed March 1 through May 15; and for two hundred (200) yards below all irrigation diversion dams. Each net must be clearly marked with owner's complete name and address.
- Hoop nets may be any size and shape.

Bait (Live)

- Sculpins (genus Cottus) may be used live for bait in all waters of the Eastern District.
- Live nongame bait fish (except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family), yellow perch, and rainbow smelt) may be used in all streams and rivers of the Eastern District except:
  - — Milk River and its tributaries upstream from Fresno Dam.
  - — Missouri River upstream from Morony Dam.
  - — Streams south of Highway 2 which originate in Bearpaw Mountains, and Big Sandy Creek upstream from Highway 87 bridge.
- Live nongame fish (except carp, goldfish, sunfish, bullheads (catfish family) yellow perch, and rainbow smelt) may be used for bait in the following ponds, lakes, reservoirs and impoundments only:
  - — Bainville Railroad Ponds, Roosevelt County
  - — Baker Lake, Fallon County
  - — Box Elder Reservoir, Sheridan County
  - — Buxbaum West Reservoir, Richland County
  - — Castle Rock Lake, Rosebud County
  - — Cole Ponds, Phillips County
  - — Dredge Cut Trout Pond, Valley County

Bait (Live) (Continued)

- — Engstrom Reservoir, Sheridan County
- — Ester Reservoir, Phillips County
- — Flat Lake, McCone County
- — Fort Peck Reservoir
- — Frenchman Reservoir, Phillips County
- — Hollecker Lake, Dawson County
- — Killenbeck Reservoir, Daniels County
- — Kuester Reservoir, Richland County
- — Lame Steer Reservoir, Wibaux County
- — Lee (Sam) Reservoir, Dawson County
- — Lindsay Reservoir, Dawson County
- — Little Warm Reservoir, Phillips County
- — Lone Tree Creek Impoundments, Valley County
- — Lyons Reservoir, Blaine County
- — McChesney Reservoir, Phillips County
- — Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Sheridan County
- — Milk River and its impoundments downstream of Fresno Dam
- — Nelson Reservoir, Phillips County
- — Petrolia Reservoir, Petroleum County
- — Raymond Reservoir, Sheridan County
- — Rolph Dam, Carter County
- — Schlesinger Perch Pond, Rosebud County
- — South Sandstone Reservoir, Fallon County
- — Spotted Eagle Pond, Custer County
- — Talcott Pond, Carter County
- — Tiber Reservoir, Lake Elwell
- — Tongue River Reservoir, Big Horn County
- — Whiteside Reservoir, Garfield County
- — Whitetail Reservoir, Daniels County
- — Wilkowski Reservoir, Wibaux County

Boat and Motor Restrictions

The use of boats and motors may be restricted on some of the waters within this fishing district. Please refer to the boat and motor restrictions described on page 3. A complete description of all the boat and motor restrictions can be obtained by contacting a license agent or any Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks office.

Angler Alert

Check the district exceptions listed below for the body of water you intend to fish. If the body of water is not found in the listing of exceptions, the standard regulations, seasons, and daily/possession limits apply.

Eastern Fishing District Exceptions:

Bear Paw Lake (Hill County)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Beaver Creek
- South of Highway 2 (Bearpaw Mountains)
  - — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Beaver Creek in Valley and Phillips County
- Open entire year to setlines.

Big Muddy Creek
- Open entire year to setlines.

Big Sandy Creek
- Upstream from Highway 87 bridge (Bearpaw Mountains)
  - — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Clear Creek
- South of Highway 2 (Bearpaw Mountains)
  - — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Cow Creek (Bearpaw Mountains)
- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Dredge Cut Trout Pond
- Open entire year for up to two (2) setlines with no more than two (2) hooks per line except that six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks may be used to fish through the ice.

Eagle Creek (Bearpaw Mountains)
- Open third Saturday in May through November 30. Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Ester Reservoir (Phillips County)
- Open entire year to setlines.

Faber Reservoir (Blaine County)
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Fort Peck Dredge Cut Ponds
- See Missouri River.

Fort Peck Reservoir (Fort Peck Dam to Turkey Joe Landing, which is approximately 20 miles downstream from Highway 191 bridge)
- Open entire year for all species (except pallid sturgeon) to persons swimming or submerged using rubber or spring-propelled spears.
  - — Open entire year for up to two (2) setlines with no more than two (2) hooks per line, except up to six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- Limit: Ten (10) bass daily and in possession.

Frenchman Creek (excluding Frenchman Reservoir)
- Open entire year to setlines.

Fresno Reservoir (Hill County)
- Open entire year for up to two (2) setlines with no more than two (2) hooks per line, except up to six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- No limit on northern pike.

Giant Springs (Great Falls) that portion enclosed by concrete walks and masonry work.
- Closed entire year.

Lake Elwell
- **See Tiber Reservoir**

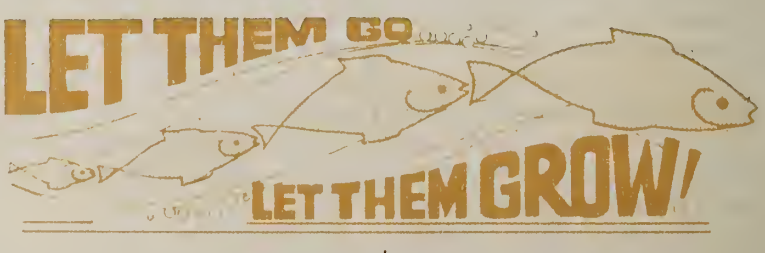
Little Box Elder Creek
- South of Highway 2 (Bearpaw Mountains)
  - — Open third Saturday in May through November 30. Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Lone Tree Creek and impoundments (Valley County)
- Open entire year to setlines.

Marias River
- Open entire year to setlines from I-15 bridge to Tiber Reservoir and from Circle Bridge (Meisner's) to confluence with Missouri River.
- From Tiber Dam to its confluence with the Missouri River
  - — Shovelnose sturgeon limit shall be 5 fish.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout, of which only one may exceed 18 inches.
- Whitefish: limit 35 fish.

Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge (Sheridan County)
- All lakes open to setlines.
- Medicine Lake
  - — Open November 15 through September 15.
- Gaffney Lake and Lake 10.
  - — Open August 15 through March 31.
- Lake 12
  - — Open November 15 through March 31.

Milk River
- And its tributaries upstream from Fresno Dam.
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.
- Upstream from Fresno Reservoir (above Goldstone Bridge)
  - — Open entire year to setlines.
- And its impoundments downstream from Fresno Dam.
  - — Open entire year to setlines.



Missouri River

- **Paddlefish Regulations — Missouri River**
  - — All paddlefish anglers, regardless of age, must purchase and have in their possession paddlefish tags in addition to other licenses that may be required.
  - — Each paddlefish angler must cast for and hook his or her own fish. It is unlawful to cast for and/or hook a paddlefish for another person.
  - — Any paddlefish tag that is locked shut prior to attachment to a fish shall be void.
  - — Any tag which has been altered or modified shall be void.
  - — It is unlawful to possess an untagged paddlefish or parts thereof. Anglers must tag paddlefish with their own tag.
  - — For the Missouri River only: paddlefish anglers must either tag or release a paddlefish immediately when taken.
  - — If a fish is cut up, the angler must keep that portion of the back and dorsal fin (back fin) necessary to maintain the tag sealed to the fish.
  - — It is illegal to snag for nongame fish from the Morony Dam downstream to the North Dakota Border.

- Upstream from Morony Dam
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.
- Immediately downstream from Morony Dam as posted
  - — Closed entire year.
- Downstream from Morony Dam (excluding river and dredge cuts between Fort Peck Dam and mouth of Milk River)
  - — Open entire year to setlines.
- From Fort Peck Dam to mouth of Milk River (including Dredge Cut Ponds)
  - — Open entire year for up to two (2) setlines with no more than two (2) hooks per line except up to six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
  - — Limit A: Not to include more than 2 rainbow trout.
- Downstream from outlet tunnels of Fort Peck Dam as posted
  - — Closed entire year.
- Downstream from Fort Peck Dam near Duck Island as posted
  - — Closed March 1 through July 31 to fishing and wading.
- Morony Dam downstream to North Dakota Border.
  - — It is illegal to snag for nongame fish.

Musselshell River

- Open entire year to setlines.

Nelson Reservoir (Phillips County)

- Open entire year for up to two (2) setlines with no more than two (2) hooks per line, except that up to six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- Open entire year for all species to persons swimming or submerged using rubber or spring-propelled spears.
- Limit: No number limit on northern pike.

Peoples Creek

- South of Highway 2 (Bearpaw Mountains)
  - — Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
  - — Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Poplar River

- Open entire year to setlines.

Powder River and tributaries

- Open entire year to bow and arrow taking of catfish. Crossbows are illegal.

Redwater River

- Open entire year to setlines.

Ross Reservoir (Blaine County)

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Limit A: Five (5) trout.

Rush Hall Pond (Fallon County)

- Open February 1 through October 15.

Snake Creek (Bearpaw Mountains)

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Sucker Creek (Bearpaw Mountains)

- Open third Saturday in May through November 30.
- Closed to use of live fish for bait except sculpins.

Teton River
- Open entire year to setlines.

Tiber Reservoir (Lake Elwell)
- Open entire year to fishing with two (2) setlines with two (2) hooks per line except that up to six (6) setlines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice.
- Limit: Ten (10) northern pike daily and in possession.

Tongue River Reservoir
- Open entire year for all species to persons swimming or submerged using rubber or spring-propelled spears.
- Up to six (6) lines with six (6) hooks per line may be used to fish through the ice but the angler must be in the vicinity and within visual contact of the line(s) or rod(s) at all times.

Wind Creek (Blaine County) from Clear Creek road crossing to its source, excluding Ross Reservoir
- Closed entire year.

Yellowstone River
- Limit: Ten (10) walleye and sauger daily and in possession, in any combination.
- Downstream from mouth of Cottonwood Creek (approximately 4 miles downstream of Intake Diversion Dam)
  — Open May 1 through June 30 to snagging of paddlefish, or as posted. Snagging of nongame fish prohibited.
- From mouth of Bighorn River to mouth of Cottonwood Creek (approximately 4 miles downstream of Intake Diversion Dam)
  — Open May 15 through June 30 to snagging of paddlefish or as posted. Snagging of nongame fish prohibited.
- From Intake Diversion to about 1/4 mile downstream as posted
  — Closed May 15 through June 30 to fishing or snagging from boats or as posted.

- **Paddlefish Regulations—Yellowstone River**
  — All paddlefish anglers regardless of age, must purchase and have in their possession paddlefish tags in addition to other licenses that may be required.
  — Each paddlefish angler must cast for and hook his or her own fish. It is unlawful to cast for and/or hook a paddlefish for another person.
  — Any paddlefish tag that is locked shut prior to attachment to a fish shall be void.
  — Any tag which has been altered or modified shall be void.
  — It is unlawful to possess an untagged paddlefish or parts thereof. Anglers must tag paddlefish with their own tag.
  — For the Yellowstone River only — it is unlawful to release a paddlefish. Each paddlefish must be immediately tagged when caught.
  — If a fish is cut up, the angler must keep that portion of the back and dorsal fin (back fin) necessary to maintain the tag sealed to the fish.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks receives federal funds and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, or handicap. For information or complaints regarding discrimination, contact the Personnel Officer, Department of Fish, Wilidlife and Parks, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-5653, or Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

By order of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, the seasons, limits and regulations listed herein shall govern the 1992 fishing season. These regulations are valid March 1, 1992, through February 28, 1993. These regulations were adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission on November 8, 1991.

*These regulations as adopted herein are also proposed to remain in effect for the 1993 fishing season. They will be formally adopted, with possible changes, by the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission in the winter of 1992. Any changes will be made available to the public on an addendum sheet available from all license agents and at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks' offices. Portions of the regulations in this booklet may be changed, or additions may be made, for the 1993 fishing season. **In order to have a complete set of the current regulations and in order to remain in compliance with the law, anglers must obtain the fishing regulations addendum sheet.**

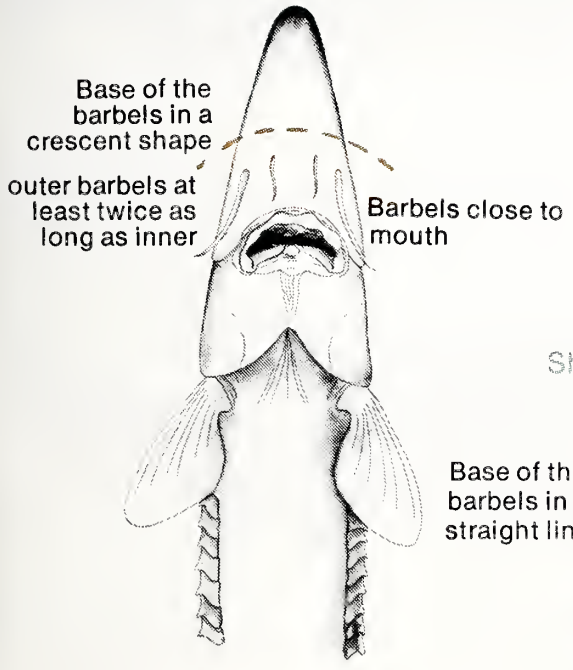
HELP PROTECT THE PALLID STURGEON!

The **Pallid Sturgeon** is a fish of special concern in Montana and it is listed as an Endangered Species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Pallids are a bottom-dwelling fish of the Missouri River, preferring strong currents flowing over a sandy or gravelly river bottom. Montana fishing regulations require that any sturgeon over 16 pounds must be released. This regulation is intended to protect the **Pallid Sturgeon**, which may grow to 60 pounds or more.

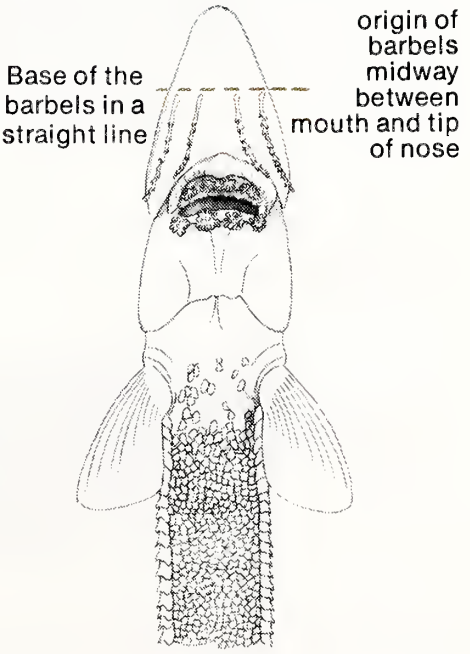
What can you do to help conserve the Pallid Sturgeon?

1. Learn to distinguish the **Pallid** from the Shovelnose Sturgeon, a smaller and more common species (see diagrams below). Since the sturgeon are hard to identify, we recommend that all sturgeon be released if you are unsure of the species.
2. Immediately and safely release the **Pallid Sturgeon.**
3. Contact the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks with any information on the location and size of **Pallid Sturgeon.**

Pallid Sturgeon

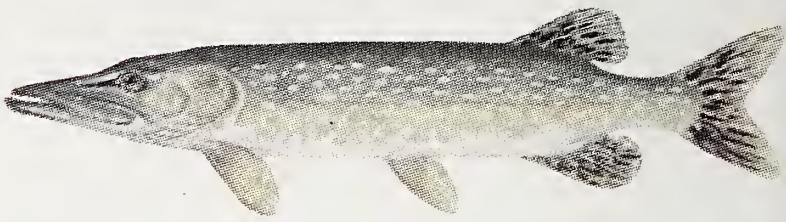


Shovelnose Sturgeon

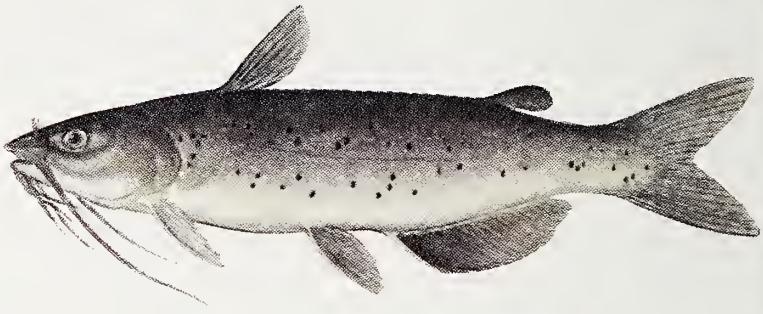


Warm Water Fish

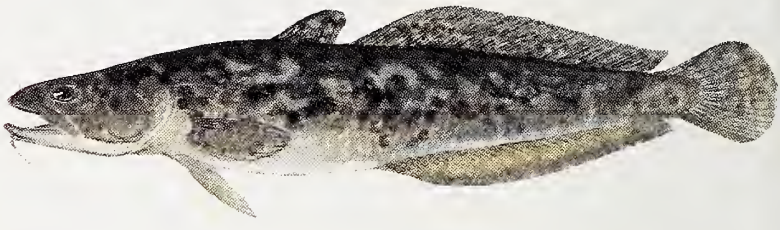
Northern Pike



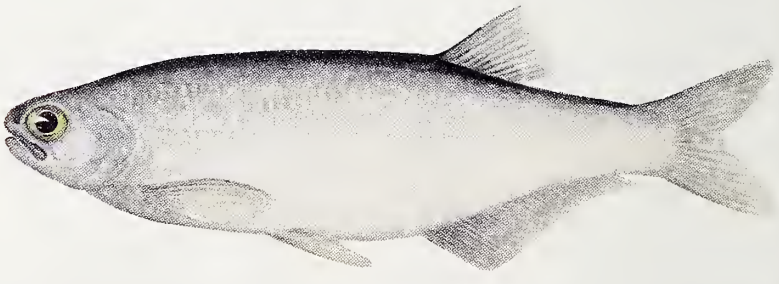
Channel Catfish



Burbot



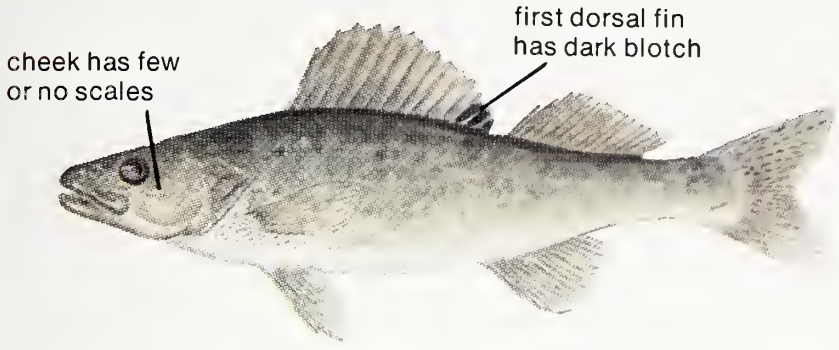
Goldeye



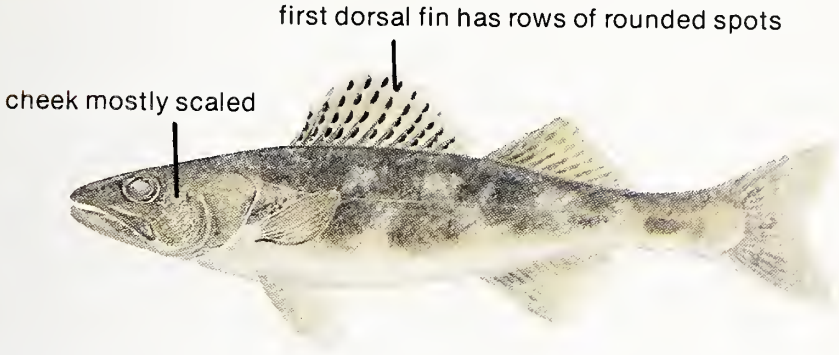
Paddlefish

Warm Water Fish

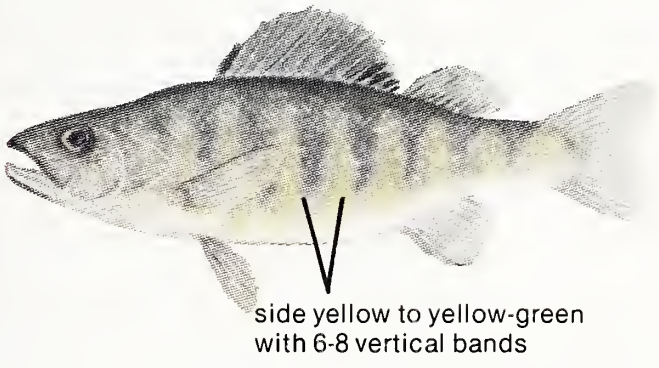
Walleye



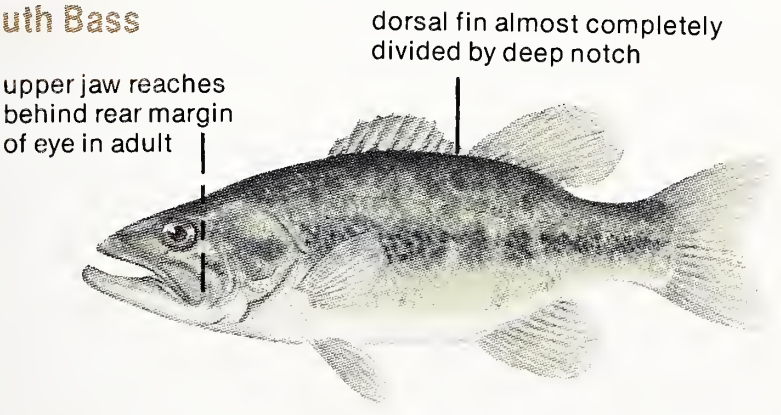
Sauger



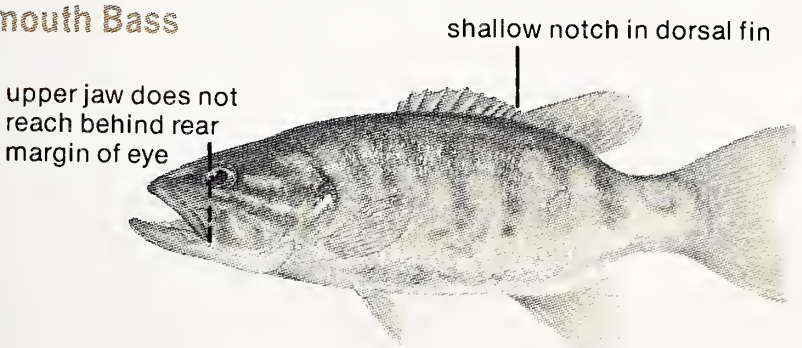
Yellow Perch



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



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